

RP stock market: Asia's bright light or black hole?

THE PHILIPPINE stock market appears to be the darling of foreign investors at the moment, outperforming all regional markets and the major ones alike.

Since the start of the year, the 33-share Philippine Stock Exchange Composite Index has risen 22 percent, followed by the key Jakarta stock index at 18 percent. In contrast, RP STOCK/A22

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Casino money OK, but not 'jueteng,' says bishop

By Blanche S. Rivera

WHY is it OK to accept money from casinos but not from "jueteng"? Because casinos take from the rich people while jueteng robs the poor. CASINO/A22



email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Monday, October 11, 2004 ★★ 80 pages / 7 sections / vol. 19 / no. 306 P18

website: www.inq7.net

Generals, legislators linked to AFP graft

Ex-military comptroller has list, says retired exec

By Fe Zamora

ONE MAY call it Garcia's List and it supposedly includes generals, legislators and at least one presidential candidate in the May 2004 elections who allegedly benefited from corruption in the Armed Forces.

A retired military officer told the INQUIRER the one who has the list is embattled Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, a former Armed Forces comptroller now facing investigation for alleged unexplained wealth.

Garcia is known in the military by his nickname "Garic."

The retired officer, who spoke to the INQUIRER on condition of anonymity, said the information held by Garcia had allowed him to go scot free in spite of an earlier investigation by the Armed Forces into his alleged unexplained wealth.

The source said he talked to Garcia himself two months ago.

"Garcia is protected all around because he is just a tool. He is not a decision maker," said the officer.

Garcia is facing an investigation by the Ombudsman for alleged unexplained wealth. He has also been asked to appear at a House committee hearing today on his alleged bank deposits abroad.

The source alleged that Garcia has been a green card holder since 1989, and that his wife Clarita was an American citizen.

"There is already a question of

GENERALS/A21



GOING to war early in their youth, these teenage members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front show off their rifles in the rebel group's Camp Darapanan. PHOTOS FROM REUTERS

MILF rift hinders peace process

CAMP DARAPANAN—Several slouching Moro rebels spring to attention as visitors approach the makeshift meeting room in a corner of their camp.

Inside, Murad Ibrahim's bookish appearance and gentle voice belie his status as the head of the country's largest Moro rebel group and one of the country's most powerful men.

"We are solid," Murad says

during an interview with Reuters, expressing certainty that he has the full support of his at least 12,000 fighters.

Shows of unity are more important than ever for the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) as it returns to peace talks with the government in Kuala Lumpur after a three-year break and tries to shake off allegations that its camps are a training

ground for militants.

But deepening divisions within the MILF between moderates and Middle East-influenced radicals could turn out to be one of the biggest obstacles to ending the 30-year-old conflict.

The risk is that the MILF may splinter if its leadership signs a peace deal that falls short of the long-cherished goal of in-

MILF RIFT/A22



MURAD: Full support from 12,000 fighters.

Colleagues in military tell Robles to shut up

By Fe Zamora

REX ROBLES is hardly the kind of man you can tell to shut up.

But the retired Navy commodore said yesterday that was exactly the message he had been getting from his former colleagues in the military and from ex-classmates in the Philippine Military Academy—shut your mouth, please.

A few congressmen and Malacañang officials have conveyed the same appeal to him, Robles said.

Not a stranger to controversy, Robles said this week that US authorities were investigating two generals and three Cabinet-level officials—apart from Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia—for supposedly maintaining huge bank accounts in the United States.

American authorities reportedly launched the probe after detaining Garcia's son, Ian Carl, at a US airport for not declaring that he was carrying \$100,000 in cash.

Garcia is scheduled to appear today before the House committee on national defense, which will conduct an inquiry into his alleged huge dollar remittances and unexplained wealth.

Robles said he was not "attacking any person" but just stating a few facts.

"But there's an eerie silence in the military. Only three persons have called to tell me to go on. All the others are telling me to shut up," he told the INQUIRER.

He said not one of his classmates from PMA Class '65 had offered moral support.

But three PMA graduates—Ed Santos of Class '66, Jess Paredes of Class '71, and Robert Lee of Class '81—have urged him to "keep on talking," Robles said.

A former Cabinet-level official who is now a legislator called up Robles for another reason.

"I think he just wanted to be sure he was not one of the Cabinet-level officials in the US report," Robles laughed.

He said he had nothing much to say because "I really don't

COLLEAGUES/A21

Studies on prayer power stir controversy

WHEN you ask God for something, does He think it over, lay down conditions or consult advisers?

Can prayer heal? Does the intercession of a favorite saint—or evangelist—actually work?

In 2001, two researchers and a Columbia University fertility expert published a startling finding in a respected medical journal: Women undergoing fertility treatment who had been prayed for by Christian groups were two

times more likely to have a successful pregnancy than those who had not.

Three years later, after one of the researchers pleaded guilty to conspiracy in an unrelated business fraud, Columbia is investigating the study. Doubts about its original conclusions have added to the debate over the deeply controversial issue of whether prayer can cure illness.

Critics express outrage that the US federal government, which

has contributed \$2.3 million over the last four years to prayer research, would continue to spend taxpayer money to study something which, they say, has nothing to do with science.

"Intercessory prayer presupposes some supernatural intervention that is, by definition, beyond the reach of science," Dr. Richard J. McNally, a Harvard psychologist, pointed out. "It is just a nonstarter, in my opinion, a total waste of time and money."

Since 2000, at least 10 studies of intercessory prayer have been carried out by researchers at institutions, including the Mind/Body Medical Institute, a nonprofit clinic near Boston run by a Harvard-trained cardiologist, as well as Duke University and the University of Washington.

Even those who defend prayer research concede that such studies are difficult. For one thing, no

STUDIES/A20

Food coupons could hardly alleviate poverty

By Amanda Doronila

JUST six months into her second administration, two shocks have jolted President Macapagal-Arroyo. The shocks did not come from the usual culprits—"destabilizing" forces such as the political opposition and coup plotters.

The latest was the Social Weather Stations survey in August that found that the incidence of hunger nationwide had jumped dramatically. One out of every seven household heads

polled said his family had nothing to eat at least once in the three months before the survey, triple the number the previous year.

The finding spelled one ominous word—HUNGER.

The shock followed closely the warning by a group of economists at the University of the Philippines two months ago that the country faced economic collapse in two to three years unless the fiscal deficit was dramatically reduced with revenue-pro-

ducing reforms and drastic cost-cutting measures.

The administration has passed its first 100 days of its second term and is nearing its six-month mark, but it has little to show that it has instituted fiscal reform

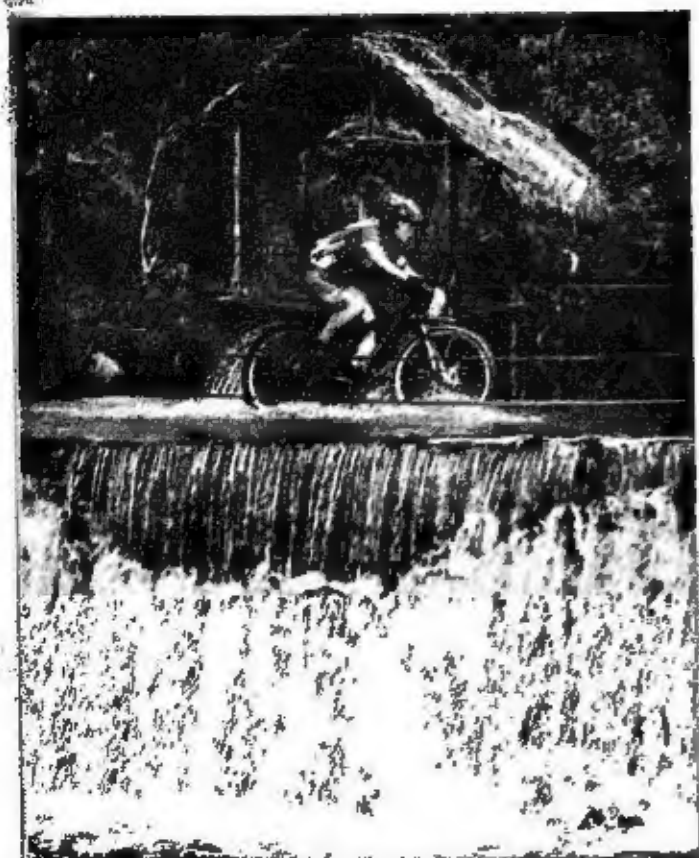
measures to stem the tide of a widening deficit. It has not imparted a sense of urgency to the public and it seems to have been caught in the lullaby of "business as usual."

While it is true that this admin-

istration hurdled the obstruction put up by the opposition that tried to block the President's proclamation in June, this time she can no longer make the opposition and the coup plotters the scapegoats for her woes and for the dire manifestations of poverty.

The statistics on hunger are grim. The incidence of hunger in Mindanao jumped to 23 percent, the highest in the country and about four times the 5.3 percent

FOOD/A22



FLUID MOTION

Philippine rider Maritess Bitbit crosses a river on Mt. Magarwal during the 10th Asian Mountain Bike Cross-Country competition held in Puerto Princesa City in Palawan. (See story in Sports, Page A24.)

JESS YUSOF

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Visayas and Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, JR. (053) 83710/11/04

Second FRONT PAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer.news@nra.com.ph or 2287 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

| | | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|------------------|
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | Batavia | Cloudy with Rain |
| Cebu | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Davao | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Iloilo | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Legaspi | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Los Baños | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | Manila | Cloudy with Rain |

Foreign investors score \$1B bond deal

By Clarissa S. Batino

DISMAYED by the Philippines' mishandling of the \$1-billion bond deal in early September, foreign investors have threatened to boycott the country's future sovereign borrowings, banking and finance sources said.

They said the Philippines' credibility as a borrower had been put in serious doubt, which could make it more difficult and expensive for the Arroyo administration to access foreign financial markets at a time when its huge fiscal deficit requires frequent and substantial borrowings.

Global players such as GIC (The Government of Singapore Investment Corp.), Hypo Veritas Bank, Blue Bay Asset Management, Ashmore Investment Management Ltd., Rubicon Asset Management Ltd., Fortress Fund, Banyan Asset Management and Emerging Markets Sovereign Fund strongly criticized

the bond deal during a recent roadshow.

The fund managers complained that hedge funds or short-term players may have been favored in terms of bond allocations at the expense of long-term investors who wanted more allocations. They also accused hedge funds of "short selling" the bonds before they were even issued.

"If not addressed, the issue could well lead to limiting the country's access to long-term institutional funds as opposed to

hedge funds, which tend to create more volatility in the markets. This will mean more expensive issues in the future regardless of a steady credit rating," an internal memo said.

The foreign portfolio investors met with Finance Secretary Juanita Amatong and Trade Secretary Cesar Purisima during the roadshow in Hong Kong, Singapore, London and New York from Sept. 22 to Oct. 4. Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buesaventura joined the New York leg.

Combined, these asset managers hold a big part of the outstanding Philippine bonds estimated at close to \$20 billion. The Philippines is the largest debt issuer in Asia next to Japan.

The fund managers and portfolio investors said the heavy discounts adversely affected their portfolios and served as a disincentive for taking long positions on the bonds. "Investors thought the deal could have been issued 2 to 3 points better," the memo said.

The big discount angered those that had large and long exposures in ROPs like GIC, HPV, Blue Bay, Ashmore, Rubicon, Fortress, Banyan, EM Sovereign, among others.

"A number of funds are considering boycotting the next ROP issue. They felt cheated by the last transaction saying this was not the way to reward long-term investors in Philippine bonds for having supported the past issues in a big way," said the internal memo among the IRO, banks and key officials.

Poor buying more booze, cigs—study

By Carlito Pablo

WITH barely enough money to buy food, the poor are spending more to maintain their vices like drinking and smoking, a study said.

The study by Manila-based economic and political analyst Peter Wallace showed that the poor and those barely out of poverty accounted for an increasing share of spending on alcohol, cigarettes and tobacco (ACT).

Wallace noted that from 76.7 percent in 1997, the share of the D and E classes in total tobacco consumption increased to 82.8 percent in 2000.

On the consumption of alcohol beverages, the share of the D and E classes rose from 72.7 percent in 1997 to 75.7 percent in 2000.

The Wallace paper dated September 2004 proposed an increase in ACT tax rates to discourage the poor from consuming more cigarettes and alcoholic drinks and to generate additional revenues for the government.

"A double win for the government," was how the Wallace paper described the proposed hike in 'sin' taxes.

The paper noted that the University of the Philippines' College of Medicine estimated that P27 billion was spent annually on public health expenditures for smoking-related illnesses, with mostly the poor being afflicted.

"So dissuading the poor from smoking through higher tax rates on cigarettes benefits society—the money saved by the poor by not smoking can be used for their families' basic needs like food," the Wallace paper said.

Thus, the government "gets more money from higher cigarette taxes and spends less of taxpayer money on smoking-related diseases," the paper said.

The Wallace paper noted that cigarette and alcohol manufacturers had introduced into the market lower-priced brands that have, in effect, allowed them to take advantage of the present tax system on "vice products" and, at the same time, lure more consumers.

The paper was referring to the shift to specific taxation in 1997, but whose rates were not adjusted to inflation rates in subsequent years.

Vested interests behind oust Garcia move?

MALACANANG yesterday took up the cudgels for embattled Government Service and Insurance System president and general manager Winston Garcia, saying that vested interest groups may be behind the call for his ouster.

In an interview with DZBB radio, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said "it was possible that accusations being hurled against Garcia were coming from influential groups."

This could be why President Macapagal-Arroyo was still "weighing carefully" the demand of several sectors that Garcia be replaced at the GSIS.

"The President is giving him the benefit of the doubt," Bunye said.

The press secretary's comment bolstered Garcia's claim that the sustained attack against him was coming from "crooks in government," specifically private interest groups that lost out in the government reinsurance business.

During his term, the GSIS has aggressively pursued the reinsurance business. Garcia, scion of a politically influential family from Cebu, balked at the high premiums being charged by private reinsurance firms that had a lock on the business for years.

In the last three years, the GSIS controlled 90 percent of the P3-billion government reinsurance business, leaving only 10 percent for private reinsurance firms to divide among themselves. GSIS earnings from reinsurance rocketed to P1.848 billion in 2003 from P486 million in 2000.

Garcia said he hurt the reinsurance firms by inadvertently taking away their business.

Gil Cabacungan Jr.

You could say it's a mini ice plant.



The new TOSHIBA Automatic Ice Maker refrigerator.

It's what you need to enjoy up to 200 ice cubes per day. No more tapping to a water line, no more hoses, no more twisting ice trays. Just fill the receptacle with your favorite bottled water and it will do the rest. All that's left for you to do is enjoy the convenience of having ready-made ice cubes, any time, all the time. The Toshiba Automatic Ice Maker refrigerator. Just one of our technological innovations that keep you in touch with tomorrow.



TOSHIBA

IN TOUCH WITH TOMORROW





PRESIDENT Arroyo, with Energy Secretary Vince Perez, switches on National Transmission Corp.'s Leyte-Bolton Interconnection Project which would generate more power in Central Visayas.

Subsidy removal no rate hike-DOE

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy yesterday justified the removal of subsidies from residential customers of Manila Electric Co., saying it was not a rate hike but was designed to reflect the true cost of electricity.

"The removal of inter-class subsidies is meant to reflect the true cost of power delivery. It is not another rate hike, and is revenue neutral for both Napocor and Meralco," Energy Secretary Vince Perez told the Inquirer.

The Energy Regulatory Commission approved last week the removal of the 40 percent subsidy shouldered by industrial consumers and enjoyed by households, small industrial users and govern-

ment hospitals as part of the three-stage phaseout mandated under the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001.

Perez defended the ERC decision as "part of the ongoing effort to have a rate level that reflects the true cost of distributing power. It is common wisdom that delivering electricity to a large single user costs less than delivering to 1,000 households."

With the removal of the subsidy, households consuming more than 100 kilowatts of electricity monthly would have to pay an additional 28.52 centavos per kWh; small industrial users, 40.62 centavos per kWh, and government hospitals, 43.56 centavos per kWh beginning this month.

In contrast, the electricity bills of large commercial users will go down

by 27.83 centavos; extra large industrial users by 25.22 centavos per kWh, and medium commercial users by 23.12 centavos per kWh.

But Perez explained that the removal of the cross-subsidies would not add to the bottom lines of National Power Corp. or Meralco but would allow businesses to cut their monthly bills.

"As more large industrial users consume competitively priced electricity, the commercial and industrial consumers can deliver lower cost production and services," Perez said.

Businessmen had long complained that the cross-subsidies made the country's power rates one of the most expensive in the region and the rate distortions had turned off potential investors.

The No. 1 Videoke Microphone

WOW!
MAGIC SING
PREMIUM
Videoke Anytime, Anywhere!

mas
Feel kumanta!
with the

MAGIC SING PREMIUM NECKPHONE FREE
With every purchase of
WOW! Magic Sing Premium Videoke Microphone

ASK FOR IT!

Exclusively Distributed by:
in-a-jiffy & Corporation
G2K
Made in Korea by: KJ ELECTRONICS Co. Ltd.
www.magicmic.com

Available Nationwide At:

odyssey
MUSIC & VIDEO
0 MUSIC VIDEO

Automatic CENTRE
Home & Office Center

AstroVision
RITOPUS

ABENSON
Avid ASTAR

WESTERN
And other leading
appliance and music
stores nationwide

Metro Manila Dealers: Solid Electronics • Pacific Electronics • Armlang • Knight Audio Room • W&M Marketing • Himes • Ohm's Trader • Fair N' Square • Ample • Viewplus Appliance • Assurance • J&R • Richland Electronics • Flights • Earl Toy World • Shop Manila • VMZ Business Center • Bolden Miting • Jams Appliances • Buy Smart • Prosound • Listening Room • Listening Style • Golden Sound • Victrola Computers, Inc. • Sound Quest Electronic Center • Sigma & Sounds • Barbet Marketing • Spectra • Belcar • Yamaha School of Music • Wilsonic Marketing • A Plus A • Walcome Home Appliance Corporation
Provincial Dealers: North • Tiongson Department Store • TSB Bazaar • Audio Mix • Guanzon Merchandising Corp. • BMF Appliances • Savers Mart • Consumers Appliance Traders • CSI Appliance Center • Adhiesan Corporation • Joy's Radio Center & Record Bar • Ocampo Angeles • Ocampo Mega Store
Visayas & Mindanao: Echo Appliance • Faweb • RCS Music Center • Bobol Quality • Aiken Home • Echo-tech • Cebu Appliance • Appliance Centrum • Lopez's Department Store • POS Marketing • Romstral General Merchandise • OK Dept. Store • Better Living Appliance Center • Willy & Sons • Aben Marketing • People's Marketing • Thewson's Marketing • GC Appliance Corp. • Victoria Dept. Store • Sirlitz Consumer Electronics • Sinosa Marketing • Mindanao Solidmark Inc. • R.A. Uy Appliance • Golden Bell Grand Center • Glean Marketing • Quality Appliance • Holiday Appliance Plaza • Special Appliance Plaza • Rainbow Appliance Plaza • Central Quality Appliance Plaza • Fiesta Appliance Center



DOLLAR \$UPER SAVINGS

You work hard to earn your dollars.
Now, let your dollars work for you!

Higher interest rates

• Higher interest rates than a regular dollar savings account. Plus, higher rates for higher account balance.

Security

• PDIC insured up to P250,000 per depositor.

Flexibility

• Flexibility of a dollar savings account at a higher interest rate.

Convenience

• Earn higher interest without the burden of locking in your funds.

Call: 631-8000
Domestic Toll Free: 1-800-10-631-8000
Visit www.bancodeoro.com.ph

We find ways

BDOR BANCO DE ORO

Member PDIC. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000.

*Pamper your skin... Soothe your senses...
Protect and Beautify your face...*



*The Ultimate Spa Experience
in a New Facial Treatment*

*Facial Care Center
in a New Facial Treatment*

Waka Spa

Waka Spa is a leading provider of facial treatments and skin care services. We offer a variety of treatments including deep cleansing, exfoliation, and hydration. Our experienced estheticians use the latest products and techniques to ensure you receive the best possible results. Book your appointment today!

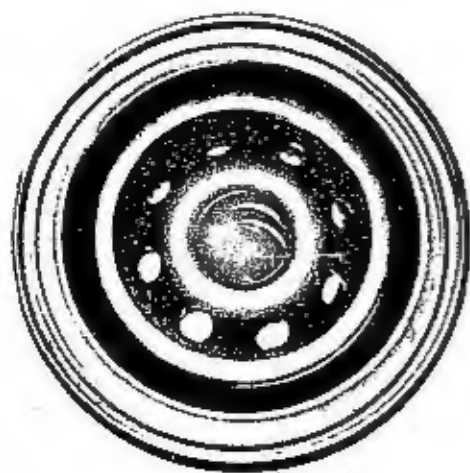
22nd YEAR ANNIVERSARY PROMO:
GET UP TO **40% DISCOUNT** ON
SELECTED TREATMENTS UPON ENROLLMENT
FROM OCT. 11-16, 2004 ONLY.

CALL 892-SKIN (7-5461) **Waka Spa** **Where Beautiful Skin Begins**

Introducing

Mitsubishi Service Plus Advantage

Factory-certified service at popular prices for out-of-warranty Mitsubishi vehicles.



Tune-up Advantage

(Change Oil / Tune-up)

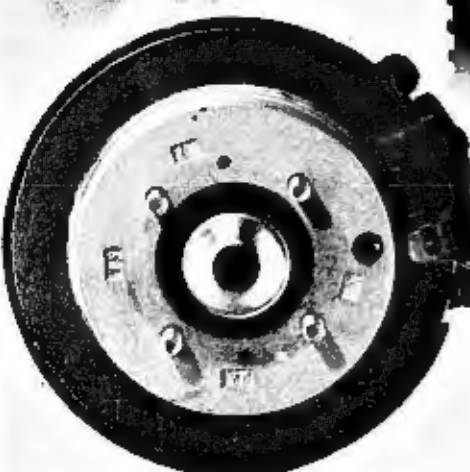
For as low as
P450.00*
(Labor Charge)



Timing Advantage

(Replace Timing Belt / Change Oil / Tune-up)

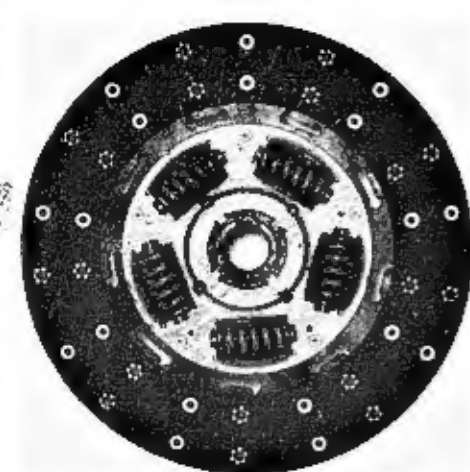
For as low as
P2,000.00*
(Labor Charge)



Brake Advantage

(Clean, Check Brakes** / Change Oil / Tune-up)

For as low as
P1,000.00*
(Labor Charge)



Clutch Advantage

(Clutch Replacement*** / Change Oil / Tune-up)

For as low as
P2,000.00*
(Labor Charge)

For out-of-warranty Lancers, Space Wagons, Galants (SS & VR), L300s, L200s, Space Gears, Adventures and Pajeros.

Promo runs from October 1 to December 29, 2004.

Visit your nearest Mitsubishi Service Center now!



* 10% discount on parts included in the Advantage packages.
** For models sold by franchised Mitsubishi Motors dealerships only.
*** No ZIP but deferred payments applicable. May not be applied at all.
**** Customers may not bring their own parts.



WE'RE EVERYWHERE TO SERVE YOU!
METRO MANILA: Cid Motors - Las Pinas - Tel. 874-8224/8002/873-3058 Cid Motors - Makati - Tel. 817-5284/5285 Diamond Motor - Fairview - Tel. 418-3038/2972/535-2504 Diamond Motor - Marikina Highway - Tel. 681-4133 Diamond Motor - Quezon Avenue - Tel. 372-9901 to 05 Diamond Motor - Yella Verde - Tel. 571-9500 to 04 Mitsubishi Motors Ballantyne - Tel. 330-7582/8801 to 05 Union Motor - J. Abad Santos - Tel. 253-1372/73 Union Motor - Paca - Tel. 983-5800/5871/584-7361 LUXON: Amcar Automotive Corp. - Sta. Rosa Laguna - Tel. 420-8057 to 68 Cales Motor - Mags City - Tel. (044) 811-0110, 473-4955, 473-4977 Carworld - Malolos - Tel. (044) 701-2405 to 06/099 Carworld - Marikina - Tel. (044) 711-2973/2984/2988 Carworld - Olongapo - Tel. (047) 224-4307/222-3743 Carworld - Pangasinan - Tel. (045) 963-1111 Carworld - Tarlac - Tel. (0462) 962-2083 Freeway Motor - Baguio - Tel. (044) 873-4084/4087 Freeway Motor - Cebu - Tel. (044) 483-8390/5105/4301 Freeway Motor - Iloilo - Tel. (078) 882-5401 Jabez Motor - Zamboanga, Cavite - Tel. (048) 415-0860, 850-1681 Motorplaza - Baguio City - Tel. (074) 300-3571/448-0167 Motorplaza - Zamboanga, La Union - Tel. (072) 705-5060/5034/242-0010 Motorplaza - Calabarzon - Tel. (075) 517-3080/5835 Motorplaza - Urdaneta - Tel. (073) 508-2502/3312 BPM Sales - Lipa City - Tel. (043) 764-8622 to 27/5194/1015 BPM Sales - San Pablo - Tel. (049) 562-0990 VIRAYAS Avescor Motors - Bacolod - Tel. (034) 435-2111/433-0452 Avescor Motors - Iloilo - Tel. (033) 336-0748/238-5399 Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Cebu - Tel. (035) 425-1427 to 28 Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Mandaue - Tel. (032) 345-1233/1260/1264/1217/1874 Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Tacloban - Tel. (063) 323-3724 to 25/2360 Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Tagbilaran - Tel. (038) 411-5814 to 15/2681 MUNDANAO: Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Butuan - Tel. (085) 341-8822/4737/225-2168 Mitsubishi Motors Cebu Corp. - Cagayan de Oro - Tel. (088) 855-8304/1486 Karala - Bajada - Tel. (082) 225-1111 to 14 Karala - Medina - Tel. (082) 206-0175/0177/1490 to 92 Karala - Taguig - Tel. (042) 217-3682 Mindanao Integrated - General Santos - Tel. (083) 302-6586 to 87 (083) 552-4781 Zamboanga Motors - Zamboanga City - Tel. (082) 881-1182/1083/943-0796

RP to seek return of wanted man

THE PHILIPPINES is set to file a formal extradition request with the United States to get back Hedeliza Trinidad, a medical doctor who is the third most-wanted kidnapper in the country, police sources said Sunday.

Trinidad allegedly financed kidnap gangs in the Philippines and had an P850,000 bounty on his head.

Police and justice department sources said the Philippine government will "initiate actions for his extradition."

Trinidad was arrested by US Federal Bureau of Investigation agents at his residence in West Covina near Los Angeles, California, on Thursday, officials of the Department of Interior and Local Government told the INQUIRER.

"He is a big catch," Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes said in an interview on ANC television. "He was quite elusive but he was entrapped. The entrapment was beautiful."

DILG officials said Trinidad was arrested while trying to sell a van to an FBI agent who had posed as a buyer.

The National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktf) and the FBI had been working since March to get their hands on Trinidad.

They got a break last month after members of the Filipino community in West Covina told them their prey was engaged in the vehicle buy-and-sell business in the area as a cover, the officials said.

Trinidad will remain under FBI custody pending the formal extradition request from the Department of Justice, they said.

"He was on the run," Reyes said. "Sometimes, he would go to Canada. Apparently, he got wind of our efforts to get him so he tried to lie low but through the information of the Filipino community there, we were able to get him."

DILG officials said the government plans to give awards to the five FBI agents who helped collar Trinidad.

"The FBI played a big role and we want to acknowledge their participation," Reyes said. *Christian V. Esguerra; Reuters, AFP*

Different guns killed leftists, cops find

By Christian V. Esguerra

DIFFERENT guns, same assassin?

Different firearms were used to kill former leftist leaders Arturo Tabara, Romeo "Ka Rolly" Kintanar and Filemon "Ka Popoy" Lagman, according to the forensics test conducted by the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory

on the slugs collected from the different crime scenes.

Despite this finding, Senior Supt. Rodolfo "Boogie" Mendoza, Task Force Tabara chief, said the PNP was sticking to its theory that the killings were the handiwork of the Communist Party of the Philippines' special operations group (SOG) and that they were the re-

sult of the victims' decision to leave the communist mainstream several years ago.

"We have very reliable information that they were killed by the same group," Mendoza told the INQUIRER yesterday.

A driver claimed he saw two heavily armed men a few meters from where Tabara and his companion, Stephen Ong, were gunned down on Sept. 26 at the SM North parking lot.

Investigators later identified the two men as members of the liquidation unit's "blocking force."

"In the Tabara case, we still don't have any material witness who really saw the shooting," Mendoza said in a text message. "But we are optimistic that we can trace those gunmen in due time."

The police, meanwhile, are building a case of "conspiracy by collective decision" against CPP spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal and top communist leaders Leo Velasco and Prudencio Calubid.

A "policy" on the liquidation was allegedly handed down by the CPP hierarchy which later became a "directive" carried out by the SOG, Mendoza said, citing intelligence reports.

Rosal, who admitted the CPP was behind the killing, could also be considered an accomplice in the Tabara killing, he said.

E.L. Raymundo; 68

EDGARDO L. Raymundo of Bustos, Bulacan, passed away on Saturday after a lingering illness. He was 68.

His remains lie in the family home on Amado Raymundo St. in Barangay Tanawan.

He is survived by his wife Teresita; sons Allan Leonardo, Edgardo Jr. and Pablo; daughter Ma. Fe Elvira; daughters-in-law Minette, Grace and Karen, and grandchildren Miguel, Liana, Martin, Yoquin, Polo, Magali and Gabriel.

Interment will be on Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Bustos Memorial Park.

71

HOME ENTERTAINMENT AV RECEIVERS

Experience all sides of the story

SR-5500

SR-4500

GOLD SERIES

Dealers are welcome. For dealer inquiries call: Super Manufacturing Inc. (02) 374-36-01 up to 04. NOW AVAILABLE AT: SM APPLIANCE (Bacolod, Cebu, Fairview, Iloilo, Makati, Manila, Megamall, NE III, NE Main, Pampanga, Rockwell, Southmall, Sta. Mesa, Davao, Dasmariñas, Cagayan) ABENSON (NE, Galloria, Mekau, Alabang, Calinta, Shangri-la) PROV. DEALERS (Magic Appliance, Dagupan, Magic Napo Mall, Saver's Mart Balibago, Saver's Mart Olongapo, Saver's Mart San Fernando, Saver's Angeles, Tiongsan, Green Marketing Tacloban) WESTERN MARKETING (Commonwealth, Farmer's Plaza, Grand Central, Megamall, Recto, Sta. Lucia, Sta. Rosa) 5TH AVENUE (Shangri-la, Alabang, MEXJO, North Edge) AVESCO (Cubao, Frisco, Manila)

1-2-3 HASSLE-FREE!



STEP 1

Nag-remit si Tatay sa BPI Express Remit Center sa abroad.



STEP 2

After a few seconds, nag-text ang BPI sa akin at kay Tatay na na-credit na ang remittance sa account ko.



STEP 3

Mabilis pa sa alas-kuwatro, nag-withdraw na ako sa pinakamalapit na BPI Express Teller ATM.

There are more than 1,200 BPI Express Teller ATMs nationwide, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"Anak ako ng Expat Pinoy—kaya alam kong hassle talaga ang pagpapadala ng remittance. Kaya dito na ako sa BPI Express Remit kasi EXPRESS NA, BANGKO PA!"

ERIK SANTOS



Expat Pinoys can now send their remittances to their beneficiaries on-line, real time through BPI Express Remit Centers and affiliated tie-up companies worldwide.

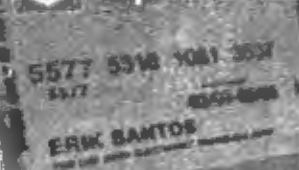
If you don't have a BPI Express Teller account or Express Cash card, visit any BPI or BPI Family Savings branch or Express Banking Center and get one right away!



express teller



Express Cash



Plus,

kahit ano'ng cellphone network provider ang gamit mo, puwedeng makuha agad ang remittance text alert!

EXPRESS NA, BANGKO PA!

Siguradong matipid, mabilis at maaasahan.



BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

A tradition of leadership

Call 89-100 or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com for more info today!

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor PHP5,000,000.



MULAN TRAVEL SERVICE CORP.

40 SHANGHAI

40 BEIJING

60 3 GORGES (Yang Tze River Cruise)

80 SHANGHAI / BEIJING

70 BEIJING / 3 GORGES / SHANGHAI

100 SHANGHAI / BEIJING / XIAN / GUILIN

dep Oct. 23 & 29

dep Oct. 23 & 29

CUSTOMIZED CHINA PACKAGES
(write your own itinerary)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|--|
| 70 VANCOUVER/CANADIAN ROCKIES | \$ 498. | Cruise Shantung exc. landing on shore |
| 70 EAST COAST PACKAGE | \$ 498. | Cruise Shantung exc. landing on shore |
| 90 WEST COAST PACKAGE | \$ 538. | Cruise Shantung exc. landing on shore |
| 80 AUSTRALIA PACKAGE | \$ 946. | M, Th, F |

VIRGO CRUISE WITH OEGIE ALCASID

Oct. 24

ALSO AVAILABLE

SPECIAL PACKAGES FOR HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, BEIJING, SINGAPORE, BANGKOK, SIEMREAP, STAN, ROTAL PRINCESS & CARIBBEAN CRUISES

525 NUOVA ST. BINUNDO, MANILA

Tel: Land 244-9690, Telex: 309-1758; Lily: 244-9692, Jody: 245-465

E-mail: mulantravel@hotmail.com T/F No: 0917-514-0378

* We also accept regular or deferred financing through major credit cards. Prices are subject to change without prior notice.
Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.
Wireless connectivity and some features may require you to purchase additional software, services or external hardware. Availability of public wireless LAN access points is limited and some laptops may not support WLAN-based Intel Centrino mobile technology systems. System performance measured by MobileMark® 2000.

A REVOLUTIONARY Heritage

For almost 30 years, the Tamaraw FX has played a big part in the lives of many Filipinos. It has become their reliable and dependable road buddy, helping them carry loads and accompanying them to places they have never gone to.



The birth of the Tamaraw FX is the result of Toyota's advanced technology and great Filipino ingenuity. It was conceptualized to meet the Filipinos growing need for an efficient utility vehicle.

Because of its outstanding performance and wide Filipino acceptance, for decades, the Tamaraw FX has become the undisputed leader in the multipurpose vehicle category.

Today, this simple workhorse has evolved to become the ultimate lifestyle vehicle enjoyed by many Filipino families.



1991



1993



1998



2002



2004

REVO

REVO MUSED SM MALL TOUR

September 30 to October 6, 2004
 • SM Mogamall
 • SM Iloilo
 October 10 to 16, 2004
 • SM Baguio

October 19 to 25, 2004
 • SM North EDSA
 October 28 to Nov 3, 2004
 • SM Cagayan de Oro

November 6 to 12, 2004
 • SM Southmall
 November 15 to 21, 2004
 • SM Cebu
 November 24 to 30, 2004
 • SM Manila

December 3 to 9, 2004
 • SM Pampanga
 December 12 to 18, 2004
 • SM Fairview



TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES 050-8500
 TOYOTA DEALER NETWORK: TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., Alabang-Zapote Rd. over Cebu-Cebu Drive 800-0001 to 30 / 500-1001 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, Guadalupe Scholastic, Avenida St., Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, Beralde Road over Aguilera St., Davao City (081) 441-8951 / (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 300-4123 / 3425 / (074) 443-0728 TOYOTA BALINTAWAN, INC., EDSA cor. Victor J. A. Gen. Exemptista St., Marikina City 304-9901 to 06 / 304-1547 to 30 / 304-0671 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAN-NORTH, 1010 Epifanio De Los Santos Ave. (EDSA), Quezon City 927-7216 / 17 / 30 / 30 / 927-7242 / 44 / 45 / 52 / 927-7257 / 02 / 05 / 927-7256 / 50 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., Division Road, Barangay Balangas, Batangas City (043) 723-7306 / (043) 723-7320 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., Km. 3 Highway Highway, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro City (0852) 735-770 / 701 / 846 / (085) 958-9904 / (085) 958-7770 (0852) 737-400 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., 34 M.J. Cuernos St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MAJADA, Tabor, Marikina City (02) 323-565-9870 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 926 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 911-0551 to 03 TOYOTA DADUPAN CITY, INC., Division Road, Barangay San Miguel, Cagayan de Oro City (0852) 517-2000 to 28 (0852) 522-8771 / 0734 / 4773 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., Km. 6 Lanasan, Davao City (082) 234-0001 / (082) 234-2934 / (082) 234-1660 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., Gran Plaza Subd., Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 320-5115 to 19 TOYOTA MARATI, INC., Apple cor. Metropolitan Avenues, Marikina City 957-3333 TOYOTA MAHILA WAY CORP., Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City (02) 234-0001 / (02) 234-2934 / (02) 234-1660 TOYOTA MANILA SERVICE STATION, Big Bay Walk Sunnyside Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 582-9701 to 03 TOYOTA OROqui, INC., 1770 Pao M. Queros St., Paco Manila 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PANGLOSS, INC., 2292 Pangoon Avenue Extension, Marikina City 932-9004 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 720 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 08 TOYOTA RINAY, INC., 308 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 520-4132 / 520-5428 / 520-3000 (Jollibee) TOYOTA RINAY-ORIENTALS, 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., No. 10, Pasig City 671-9804 to 04 / 671-6400



Hostage mourned as Blair remains mired in Iraq

LIVERPOOL—The British hostage beheaded in Iraq was mourned in his hometown on Saturday, his brutal killing ensuring Prime Minister Tony Blair remains mired in the Iraq war despite his efforts to focus voters on domestic issues.

Kenneth Bigley's hometown of

Liverpool flew flags at half-mast to mark the death of the 62-year-old engineer, whose murder sparked revulsion across Britain.

The tragic end to Bigley's three-week ordeal has underscored Blair's vulnerability on Iraq, an issue he had hoped would take a back seat as he pre-

pares to seek reelection.

Bigley's murder comes just seven months before an expected general election and hot on the heels of a report from the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) that demolished Blair's main argument for waging war on Iraq.

"The nightmare of Iraq is not over

for Blair," said YouGov pollster Peter Kellner. "The more Iraq is in the news, the more people will be reminded why they don't trust Blair."

In the northwestern city of Liverpool, politics were put aside as residents stood still at midday for a two-minute silence in memory of Bigley.

"I can't put into words the sorrow

we feel," said Rose Watts, 65, after observing the silence. "I feel like I have lost somebody I know, a brother."

The horror of the beheading was compounded by reports from insurgent sources in Iraq that Bigley had escaped briefly from his captors shortly before they killed him on Thursday.

Political opponents have declared a temporary truce out of respect for Bigley's grieving family. But Blair's judgment in backing the US-led war had toppled Saddam Hussein will be back under the microscope when parliament returns next week.

Blair biographer Anthony Seldon told Reuters: "Iraq will be the

defining issue of his premiership. The greatest error of his premiership was to back America to the hilt without insisting on conditions.

"It is not getting any better and Iraq is arguably getting worse. It will bring up questions about trust and judgment but also about Blair's future position.

"If his trust and judgment continue to be questioned by events in Iraq, his Labour Party will ask if he is the right champion to be its leader."

Blair, who last week had an operation to correct heart palpitations, has vowed to serve a full third term if elected—but then he will step down. **Reuters**

ExecutiveSpace



Makati Office

Demountable Partition

varifold architectural products, inc.
the art of defining space

3167 Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City • Tel. Nos.: 882-8271 to 73 / 728-2867 • Fax: 882-8288
www.varifold.com

varifold

THE LATEST!
EXCELLENCE by
VIDEOKE MICROPHONE

THE ORIGINAL!

MAGIC SING

The World's Best-selling
Videoke Microphone

**FREE
LEATHERETTE
MIC JACKET**



Protects your Original
Magic Sing Excellence
Videoke Microphone
for MORE videoke fun!

MORE PICTURE
BACKGROUNDS!
Up to 76 International
& local sites!

CHOOSE THE ORIGINAL MAGIC SING EXCELLENCE!

Manufactured by: ET ENTERPRISES LTD. HONG KONG

Provincial dealers:

BAGUIO: EZA Enterprises Session Road • Rajet Electronics Baguio City Mall
• BICOL: MultiBrand Naga, Iriga, Legaspi, Sorsogon Cities • CANTER: Divina Enterprises
Gen. Mariano Alvarez • CEBU: A. Salonga SM City • M. Miranda N. Bacalso St. • N. OROS
NORTE: Ricalfort Trading Leasing City • LAGUNA: Estrellita Home Value City Sta. Rosa
• MSC Data Exchange Ab. Pulo St. San Pablo • NEGROS ORIENTAL: Optimum Trader
Dumaguete City • PAMPANGA: Ocampo's Emporium San Fernando
• Davao: Guagus • 045-9000225 • Ocampo's Jewelry Angeles City
• PANGASINAN: Ricalfort Trading Dagupan City • SOUTH COTABATO: Sunata Record
Bar Koronadal City

Exclusively distributed by: For Dealership Inquiries, please call 723-4856 or 723-8952
The Astra Group, Inc. www.astramagic.com

JOINT MANIFESTO

The members of the Philippine Association for Government Budget Administration, Inc. (PAGBA) and the Association of Government Accountants of the Philippines, Inc. (AGAP), who are also members of the GSIS, felt aggrieved, humiliated and betrayed by the actions of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) through its Board of Trustees and President and General Manager Winston F. Garcia when:

1. GSIS unilaterally suspended the processing of employees' claim from April to September 2003 simply because of the installation of a new computerized system. The effectivity of such suspension came shortly after GSIS invested P 8.0 Billion in a newly incorporated subsidiary — the GSIS Property, Inc.
2. GSIS continuously refused to disclose officially what ratable portion of the member's and employer's premium contribution (9 and 12% respectively, of basic salary) would form part of the Retirement Fund and Life Insurance Fund.
3. GSIS adopted and implemented the premium based policy on September 17, 2003 despite the absence of a comprehensive actuarial and legal studies, and knowing fully well that "a lot of government employees would be adversely affected".
4. GSIS shifted the burden of producing the records of premium/amortization payments, collections and remittances to individual members and their employers when in fact GSIS personnel and officials have the mandated duty to safekeep and maintain such records.
5. GSIS deducted such unpaid premium contributions and amortizations from the proceeds of salary/policy loans or retirement benefits due an individual member.
6. GSIS issued erroneous Statement of Premium and Loans Repayment Index generated by its multi-million pesos newly installed computer system thereby making it appear that individual members have various unpaid premiums and loan payments although these were already remitted by the agencies to GSIS.
7. GSIS failed to comply with the promise to issue corrected Statement of Premium and Loans Repayment Index by end of September 30, 2004, that is one year from the effectivity date of the scourge — the premium based policy.

The members of PAGBA and AGAP are disgusted, exasperated and becoming impatient to the deliberate delay, if not outright refusal, of GSIS in furnishing them documents and/or information which are reasonably necessary in formulating proposed amendments to Republic Act 8291 such as:

1. Actuarial studies on the social insurance reserve funds from 1998 to 2003;
2. List of investments in traded stocks from 1997 to 2003;
3. List of business loans from 1997 to 2003;
4. Dividend allocation formula from 1997 to 2003;

5. Actual study supporting the premium based policy of GSIS; and
6. Allocation of employee's and employer's contribution to Retirement and Life Insurance Fund.

The members of PAGBA and AGAP are deeply concerned on the use of "creative accounting" practices by GSIS such that:

1. The employees' and employers' contributions are reported as income rather than as trust fund;
2. The actuarial reserve deficit is not reflected nor disclosed in the financial statements;
3. The expense account in 2001 includes "bad debts on investments" amounting to P 3.672 Billion;
4. For the purpose of compliance to the 12 percent expense loading, revenues are recognized from all sources (including employees' and employers' contributions) while expenses are limited only to administrative expenses thereby excluding operating expenses.
5. The presentation of the financial statements are modified almost from year to year.

The members of PAGBA and AGAP are very disappointed by the manner GSIS is trying to mislead its members and the public by way of trumpeting the quantum leaps in the revenues and net operating income of the System resulting from the "judicious management" of its funds. The truth was that the quantum leap in revenues is attributed primarily to the continuous increase in the rates and amount of contributions of its members and employers since 1997 up to 2002.

Finally, the members of PAGBA and AGAP are very much wary of the propensity of the Board of Trustees and the President and General Manager of the GSIS to promulgate policies and/or rules which impair and dilute the basic rights and benefits of GSIS members.

GSIS has caused so much anxiety and sufferings to its members. GSIS is now perceived as a burden to its members.

For these reasons, the members of PAGBA and AGAP respectfully call upon the leaders of this nation — Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Honorable Franklin M. Drilon of the Senate of the Philippines and Honorable Jose C. de Venecia of the House of Representatives to immediately conduct an independent formal inquiry on the state of affairs of the Government Service Insurance System so as to maintain peace and sobriety among the 1.5 Million GSIS members.

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF PAGBA AND AGAP:

CYRIL E. RAMOS
President

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Taiwan calls for peace talks, 'code of conduct' with China

TAIPEI—Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian used his Sunday National Day speech to call for peace talks with arch foe China and urge both sides to adopt a system to prevent an outbreak of conflict in the narrow strait dividing them.

The Taiwan Strait has become one of Asia's most dangerous flash points since Chen's reelection in March. China is convinced Chen will push the island it sees as a rebel province toward formal statehood in his second four-year term—a move that Beijing has said would lead to war.

In a conciliatory move, Chen said his government was willing to return to the negotiating table based on a 1992 understanding over interpretation of Beijing's cherished "one China" principle.

"In the long-term, both sides should formally end the state of hostility across the Taiwan Strait and establish confidence-building measures through consultations and dialogues," Chen said in his speech in front of the Presidential Office in Taipei.

Chen had long said the speech would contain a peace overture, and he took the opportunity to propose the resumption of talks with Beijing that have been frozen since 1999, by saying he was ready to return to dialogue on the principles first agreed.

"I would like to take the initiative to propose that both sides use the basis of the 1992 meeting in Hong Kong, to seek possible schemes that are 'not necessarily perfect but acceptable,' as preparation of a step forward in the resumption of dialogue and consultation," Chen said.

A consensus in 1992 in which each side agreed to hold its own interpretation of the "one China" principle paved the way for historic negotiations in Singapore

between Taipei and Beijing.

Since a 1949 civil war split, China has regarded the self-ruled, democratic island as a province that must be returned to the fold—by force if necessary.

Chen's government had previously said both sides "agreed to disagree" in 1992 and avoid any reference of the "one China" principle.

However, talks broke down in 1999 when then president Lee Teng-hui redefined ties as between "special state to state," angering China by raising the prospect of an independent Taiwan.

Chen appeared to opt for a conciliatory tone.

"The Republic of China and the People's Republic of China—or Taiwan and China—can seek to establish political relations in any form whatsoever," he said.

"We would not exclude any possibility, so long as there is the consent of the 23 million people of Taiwan," Chen said in his closely watched speech.

Chen said both sides should seriously consider arms control and take concrete actions to reduce tension.

"We should review the armament policies of both sides and seek to establish a 'Code of Conduct' across the Taiwan Strait" as the tangible guarantee of permanent peace in the Taiwan Strait. The Oct. 10 "Double-Tenth" national day marks the founding of the Republic of China after the Qing dynasty fell in 1911.

The government of the republic, the Nationalist Party, fled to Taiwan after losing a civil war to the communists in 1949.

Chen swept to power in 2000, ending more than half a century of one-party Nationalist rule on the island.

Reuters

ERYUN

Paper Shredder

Best Performance. Best Value Shredding Technology

Features:

- AUTOMATIC**
- Full-Speed Sensing System
- Reverse System occurs when papers are jammed
- Warning System activates when third box overloads

Shred chips 3 x 25 mm

Shred chips 2 x 18 mm

Also available in different sizes

DEXTERTON

Dexterton Corporation

Address: 57 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Davao City
Tel: 352-1111 / 361-0008 Fax: 363-0824
email: dexterton@dexterton.com
website: www.dexterton.com

ASIAN DRILLING & PUMPS

Avecilla Exl., BF Resort, Las Pinas City
Tel. No., 871-3687 • 874-0637 • Telefax 876-2575

SERVICES

- PERCUSSION & ROTARY DRILLING
- WELL REHABILITATION & SUBMERSIBLE PUMP SERVICING
- SELLS SUBMERSIBLE & HOUSEHOLD PUMPS: GRUNDFOS, GOULDS, NYERS, FRANKLIN MOTOR & PRESSURE TANK
- RESIDENTIAL DEEP WELLS 2" & 3" DIA WELL CASING BY 200-600 FEET DEPTH

Start Your Own Car Wash...

Small Capital, Big Returns!

Water Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.

NO AFTER SALES SERVICE

CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED

MAIN OFFICE: 1231 N. Orosa St., Makati, Manila
Tel. Nos. 5244328 • 5240528 • 5245180
QUEZON CITY BRANCHES: 846 Quezon Ave. Tel. 7490381 • 7493709
152 Ori Monte Ave. N. Cor. Roosevelt Ave. Tel. 4161088 • 3724429

Israeli Army kills 7 in Gaza

GAZA—Israeli troops killed seven Palestinians, including five militants, in Gaza on Saturday as the army pressed on with a massive offensive aimed at stopping militants firing rockets into Israel.

At least 87 Palestinians, 50 of them militants and the rest civilians, have been killed in the offensive with some 200 tanks and armored vehicles—the biggest thrust into Gaza since the Palestinian uprising began in 2000.

Three Israelis have also died since the start of the raid.

Reuters

Starting a business need not be a HASSLE!

At MIBC PI, all your business needs shall be handled by experts with 26 years track record.

We can assist you in your:

- Registrations & Incorporation
- Government Permits & Licenses
- Office Address
- Legal & Accounting

We can provide your Virtual Office:

- Prestigious Mailing Address
- Personalized Answering Service
- Fax & E-mail Address
- Secretarial Service
- Workstation

Also Available:

- FURNISHED ROOMS & MODULARS
- MEETING ROOMS
- State-of-the-Art FACILITIES

Call us at: 818-77-52
Or e-mail us at: info@multibusiness.com.ph
Or visit us at: www.multibusiness.com.ph

MULTI-BUSINESS CENTER PHILS. INC.
BDO Plaza, Pasay de Roxas, Makati City

Chick Mac

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

NOW OFF THE PRESS!

Quick Reviewer on the Law on Marriage and Family Relations

2004 Editions

By: Judge Priscilla B. Padilla

Available at
REX BOOK STORE, INC.

RECTO 1977 C. N. Recto Ave. Samp. Mla. 785-5517/785-5534. MONAYTA 856 Nuevas Reyes, Sr. St. Samp. Mla. - 736-0067/736-1364/736-4181. SHAW Facilities Center Bldg. 848 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyod City - 831-1306/831-1338. MAKATI Unit UG-2 Star Centrum Bldg. 5th Fl. Puyat Ave. Makati City - 835-3744/816-5545. BOCIEWELL 1st Floor Alencio Professional School, Rockwell Center Bldg. Al. Makati City - 728-2118. CUBAO Unit A, Ground Floor Rustan's Superstore Bldg. Cubao, Quezon City - 911-1070. CAVITE Lot 6, Bldg. 5, Cityview IV Brgy. Tanauan, Tanza, Cavite 0918-9110260. PAMPANGA 1906 Cerise Bldg. MacArthur Hwy. Balibago, Angeles City - (045) 492-1721. ILOILO 76 Brgy. San Isidro Lopez-Jarao, Jaro, Iloilo City - (038) 339-0832/329-0386. CEBU 11 Sanciangko St. Cebu City - (032) 294-8173/294-8174. 254-5466. LEGASPI Mayallones cor. Alonzo St., Legaspi City, Albay - (053) 920-2270. PANGASINAN Zone 5, Pinalatipod, Urdaneta, Pangasinan - (075) 548-3075. GENERAL SANTOS Aparito St. Dadiangas Heights General Santos City - (083) 954-7192. CAGAYAN DE ORO J. Serrano St. cor. Venerio Blvd. Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City - (086) 859-8775. DAVAO 156 C. N. Reta St. Davao City - (083) 225-3187/231-7840/221-0272. CABANATUAN City Duran Bldg. del Pilar Est. (opposite) Sanguan East, Cabanatuan City - (044) 600-5684. TACLOBAN Brgy. 79 Marabara, Tacloban City Leyte - (063) 223-8976. QUEZON CITY LEMAD 2nd Floor, 86 P. Placencia St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Q.C. - 411-2782/416-7487

Get a Home Loan, Grab a Phone!



A great deal made even better!

METROHOME FINANCING

- Low interest rates
- Easy-to-pay monthly amortizations
- Long payment terms
- PLUS, a free **Buddy** phonekit!

Every borrower is a sure winner!

Simply get a MetroHome loan. Offer good until November 30, 2004. See flyers for details. Apply now!

For details, call: HOME FINANCING DIVISION - 806-8500 • 890-8500 • 898-8533 • 898-9942 • 898-8505 • 898-8578 / CONSUMER LENDING BUSINESS CENTERS - Cebu (832) 264-1283 • Cebu (848) 834-1586 • Pangasinan (975) 558-7414 • Davao (082) 222-8771 • Cagayan de Oro (088) 857-7791 • Bacolod (034) 435-0525 • Iloilo (033) 336-3958

Phone unit/color may vary depending on available stock.

Per DTI WCL Permit No. 4068 Series of 2004

You're in good hands with **METROBANK**

Over 800 domestic and international branches, offices and subsidiaries. Head Office: Metrobank Plaza, San Gil J. Puyat Ave. Makati City. Web Page: www.metrobank.com.ph

Kerry back in Florida as knife-edge poll looms

DAVIE, Florida—Four years after Florida emerged as villain of the 2000 US election debate, the Sunshine state is again in the cross hairs of a too-close-to-call race for the White House.

Amid warnings of new voting irregularities this time around, Democratic hopeful John Kerry flew back Saturday to the land of the pregnant chad to meet supporters in a town-hall meeting in Broward County, 24 hours after his televised dust-up with President George W. Bush in St. Louis.

"We need a president who understands that working with other countries is a sign of strength, not weakness," Kerry said, lashing Bush again on Iraq, before moving on to critique the president on issues crucial to local voters like healthcare and the economy.

Broward was one of the Florida districts which became notorious in the deadlocked 2000 election between Al Gore and Bush.

It was here that painstaking hand counts stained the election but enriched the English language with new terminology such as pregnant, dimpled and hanging chads—imperfect indentations made on ballot punch cards by voting machines.

Bush eventually prevailed in Florida by only 537 votes, which gave him enough electoral college votes to take the White House after the Supreme Court ended a five-week legal battle over recounts in Florida.

Kerry, running neck and neck with Bush in Florida and nationwide ahead of the Nov. 2 presidential election, was back in the state just a week after their first debate, near Miami.

Before this trip, he had spent 20 days in Florida this year. Bush has also blizzed the state, using his role as president to dispense federal aid to communities staggering after a string of deadly storms.

Florida could hold the key to the White

House, with its lucrative 27 electoral votes—a tenth of the total needed to win in November. Only California, New York and Texas have more, and none of the three are considered up for grabs.

Texas is considered a safe bet for the Republicans, while New York and California generally yield majorities for the Democrats.

Many analysts say the race could be tight again this year, as most polls have Bush and Kerry neck and neck within the margin of statistical error.

"It's a close race in Florida, we believe that we have done well there and have a small lead in the state," Kerry strategist Joe Lockhart said last week.

"There is no more important place for us in the country and we feel very comfortable that we are going to win the state."

Testing the political waters has been hampered by the hurricanes which barreled through Florida in August and September, slicing electricity and tele-

phone lines.

There have also been dire warnings that in the event of another knife-edge election, history could repeat itself.

Former president Jimmy Carter, who has monitored scores of elections worldwide, warned in the Washington Post last month that reforms passed after the 2000 election snafu have not been implemented.

"The disturbing fact is that a repetition of the problems of 2000 now seems likely," he said.

"Some basic international requirements for a fair election are missing in Florida," including non-partisan electoral officials and uniformity in voting procedures, he said.

With memories of 2000 fresh, both Democrats and Republicans have tooled up with teams of lawyers in Florida and other battleground states to pounce immediately should irregularities occur. AFP



KERRY shakes hands with supporters at Lorain County Community College in Elyria, Ohio, Oct. 9.

Imagine these in your bedroom.
And they're FREE!

Money Back
raffle

You can win a maximum
prize refund of
P100,000 every week!

- For every P1,000 purchase, you get a raffle coupon. Fill out and drop in drop boxes at Wilcon. Keep your sales invoice.
- There will be one winner per draw. The prize is a refund of purchases made at Wilcon a maximum of P100,000 in cash.
- Raffle draws will be every Sunday, 10:00 AM, starting October 3, 2004 until January 2, 2005. These will be held at the Wilcon Builders' Depot Main Office in Libis, Quezon City.
- Promo begins on September 24, 2004. It ends on January 1, 2005 in Metro Manila and December 31, 2004 in Davao.

See flyers for details.



E-mail: wilcon@wilcon.com.ph • Website: wilcon.com.ph



Build anything. We have everything.

WILCON BUILDERS' DEPOT:

Libis 90 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Ugonog Norte, Libis, QC (formerly Jnlwide) - Trunkline: 834-8367 / Tel: 634-8381 to 88 / Fax: 633-9331

Alabang 8003 Real St., Alabang Zapote Rd., Las Piñas City (across Toyota Alabang) - Trunkline: 809-9106 / Tel: 809-7866, 809-9481, 809-9106, 772-0312 to 14 / Fax: 772-0311, 772-0315

Balintawak 1274 EDSA, Balintawak, QC (before Dist. Limnaco) Trunkline: 382-8521 / Tel: 362-4531 382-8268 to 83

WILCON BUILDERS' SUPPLY:

Muluez 1864 EDSA, QC 926-1504, 921-3342
Quezon Ave. QC 732-3673
Las Piñas Las Piñas City - 807-8233
Ortigas 225 EDSA, East Greenhills - 727-6064
Pasay EDSA, Pasay City - 832-0242

Quirino QC - 935-9653
Libis QC - 637-5623
Mindanao Ave. QC 455-8586
Pasong Tamo Makati City 893-3142
Davao Marina, Davao City - (082) 297-9652

Per DTI-MCR Permit No. 2007 Series of 2004

A wire under Bush's coat? Papers ponder bulge puzzle

WASHINGTON—A mysterious bulge under US President George W. Bush's suit jacket during his first debate with Democratic rival John Kerry drew the attention of two top US newspapers on Saturday after days of feverish Internet speculation.

The Bush campaign has dismissed the "mystery bulge" as nothing more than a wrinkle in the presidential jacket and denied speculation that Bush may have been wired as nothing more than the "ridiculous" speculation of Internet conspiracy nuts.

"Credible news organizations have taken a serious look at that and decided not to run the story," said Bush campaign spokesperson Scott Stanzel. "People have been spending too much time dealing with Internet conspiracies. It's ridiculous."

Still, the bulge drew the attention on Saturday of respected mainstream dailies The New York Times and The Washington Post.

"The Mystery of the Bulge in the Jacket," was the headline on the brief Times item which accompanied its extensive coverage of Friday's second presidential

debate in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Post ran a much longer story under the headline: "Bulge Under President's Coat in First Debate Stirs Speculation."

Political Web logs, or blogs, have been buzzing about the bulge since the first presidential debate in Miami on Sept. 30. The rectangular protrusion in the middle of Bush's back is visible in news photos and television footage.

A number of anti-Bush bloggers have speculated that the president was wearing a hidden earpiece and that the bulge was a radio receiver linked to a political aide prompting him from off-stage.

Asked by AFP about the bulge, a White House spokesperson simply rolled her eyes.

A Bush campaign spokesperson said it was nothing more than a question of tailoring.

"There was nothing under his suit jacket," Nicole Devenish, the Bush campaign's communications director, told the Times. "It was most likely a rumpling of that portion of his suit jacket, or a wrinkle in the fabric." AFP

Unusually high turnout seen in US Nov. 2 presidential vote

WASHINGTON—Voter registration drives are gaining exceptional momentum in the run-up to the US presidential elections, pointing to an unusually high turnout on Nov. 2.

The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS), organization of the state officials responsible for keeping voter registration lists, reports "record-breaking numbers" in all regions of the country.

In Florida, where a bitter recount in 2000 delayed the official results by 36 days before giving George W. Bush a razor-thin win over Al Gore, there has been a surge in registrations. As of Aug. 2, they stood at 9.7 million, one million more than in 2000, according to the secretary of state's office.

This year, Florida is one of the states in hottest contention, with Bush and Democrat John Kerry virtually neck and neck.

In New Mexico, which narrowly went Democratic in 2000, 10 percent of the electorate will be

new voters this year, said NASS spokesperson Meredith Imwalle.

In Missouri and Minnesota, two key battleground states, "organizations are requesting boxes of voting registration cards by the thousands," she said.

"There's been a surge. We have seen record-breaking numbers; 2000 showed that every vote counts."

The registration surge was at least in part legislated by Congress, which in 2002 passed the Help America Vote Act, said Imwalle. The law, she explained, was "designed to clean up the process. It gave money to the states for voter education and voter outreach campaigns."

But there is also a broad mix of parapolitical groups getting out the vote, from the flurry "Virgin Voters" skipping across college campuses to followers of unabashedly anti-Bush film maker Michael Moore offering registrants rewards of "clean shorts and freeze-dried soup."

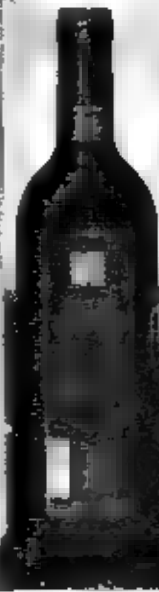
The race is so tight that the two camps can only hope the surge in registrations will go their way.

"I am confident we're going to win," said Don Eggett, an aggressive Democratic campaign worker in Wisconsin, where Bush holds a 10-point margin over Kerry in the polls.

Donald Green, political science professor at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, said the Democrats have drummed up more registrations than the Republicans. But he wonders whether that will produce results on Nov. 2.

"Democratic organizations have registered a larger number, but we don't know if they'll vote," he said. AFP

**BANDE
VENDANGE**
RED WINE ROUGE



A perfect harmony of the finest vineyard grapes and fertile California soil gives this red wine a distinguished, full bodied taste and an elegant bouquet with just the right tannin. Here's to good health and the good life!

Reelected Australia premier to focus on Asia

SYDNEY—Australia's newly re-elected Prime Minister John Howard may be unquestioning in his support for the United States, but one of his key priorities during a fourth straight term will be to shore up often uneasy ties with Asia.

Howard was quickly congratulated by close allies US President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair after voters re-elected his conservative government on Saturday but there is another leader Howard is keen to speak to.

"One person I will want to speak to very soon is the President-elect of Indonesia, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who will be a very important figure in our region," Howard told reporters at his final news conference on Friday before the election.

With Australia and Australians named as a target by Islamic mili-

tant network al-Qaida and its Southeast Asian arm Jamaah Islamiyah, Howard knows the importance of support for the war on terror from the leader of the world's largest Muslim nation.

At times Howard has tested Australia's relationship with Asia, alarming its nearest neighbors with recent policy announcements that reinforced his 1999 description of Australia as a US "deputy sheriff" in Asia.

Australia adopted an interventionist policy in the South Pacific following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, fearing instability in its small island neighbors could create havens for drug traffickers, smugglers and terror groups.

Australia already has troops and police in the Solomon Islands and police in Fiji, Tonga and Samoa. It plans to deploy a force of police and civil servants in the coming

months to Papua New Guinea to restore law and order to that troubled South Pacific nation.

Howard caused further alarm when he recently reiterated his view that preemptive strikes in another country were a legitimate response to terrorist threats, and announced plans for a regional spy school and for counterterrorism teams in Asia.

Australia has unveiled plans to create Southeast Asia's "most lethal" force of fighter jets with long range cruise missiles.

But Howard does not believe he will have to explain his policies, particularly on preemptive strikes, to Yudhoyono, who he hopes to meet on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Chile in November.

"He will understand exactly what I'm talking about and he

will know that it is non-threatening to Indonesia," Howard said.

"The circumstances in which it might happen are circumstances where another country would be either unwilling or unable (to act) and I have no doubt the spirit of cooperation between Australia and Indonesia would never see that occur," he said.

Howard's beaten rival, Labor leader Mark Latham, derided the government during a six week election campaign for its "hairy-chested" policy of preemption and argued involvement in US-led Iraq has made Australia less safe.

Latham, who wanted to bring Australia's 850 troops in and around Iraq home, believed Australia was less safe because resources had been diverted to the other side of the world when the focus should have been on waging the war on terror in Asia. Reuters



A JUBILANT Howard addresses his party faithful after claiming victory in the federal election in Sydney, Oct. 9. Howard won a historic fourth term in a vote that will ensure the staunch US ally will keep its troops in Iraq for the foreseeable future.

THE INCREDIBLE LAST QUARTER 0% STORM

BUY NOW PAY NEXT YEAR!

CATCH A RAINFALL OF APPLIANCES, HOME THEATER SYSTEMS, JEWELRY, WATCHES, BANQUETS, EXCLUSIVE SPA SERVICES AND MANY MORE!

AVAIL OF EQUITABLE CARD'S E-PAY INSTALLMENT PLAN AND ENJOY A 0% E-PAY LIMIT FOR ALL YOUR INCREDIBLE 0% LAST QUARTER STORM TRANSACTIONS.

A FLOOD OF EXCITING PRODUCTS AWAIT YOU IN PARTICIPATING ESTABLISHMENTS! HURRY!

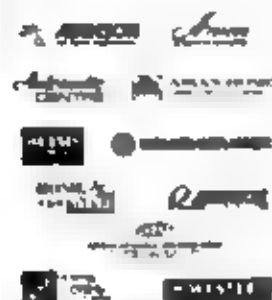
Equitable

867-7977 1-800-1800-3264 (Domestic Toll-Free)

www.equitablecard.com

VISA

APPLIANCE STORES



DEPARTMENT STORES



HOTELS



RETAIL SHOPS



BOOKS



RESTAURANTS



ATM'S



OMEGA



SOUNDROOM



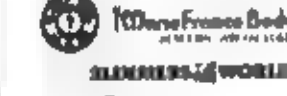
RESTAURANTS



SPA/FITNESS CENTERS



WORLD



TELECOM



OTHER PARTICIPATING ESTABLISHMENTS: Ambassador Appliances, Audion, 5th Avenue, Blackboard's Seafood and Restaurant, Canon/Superical, Crustello Crabs and Seafood House, Deeco, Echo Appliance Center, Fuji Film, Island Photo, Kmartworld, Lee Super Plaza, Nurture Spa, Photoline, Picture City, Pinnacle Hairdressing, Seafood Club by Red Crab, Seaside Valley, Star Apple, The Red Crab Seafood and Steaks, The Spa, Topshop, UDS, Whitegold Club

Bright spot

IN THE SECOND TV debate between US presidential candidates George W. Bush and John Kerry, I got the impression that a more aggressive Bush was able to shave off Kerry's lead in the first debate. Subsequent US media polls bore me out—they're now in a statistical dead heat. But doubtless many Filipinos also got the feeling that the United States is lucky in that whoever wins, that country would be okay, since both candidates are qualified. In our case last May 2004 elections, the thinking class really had no choice but to back up Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

My son, Buddy, a Bush fan, opines that the statistical dead heat only means that Bush isn't doing bad at all. He argues that given all the problems the United States faces, especially the war in Iraq, it's always easy for a challenger to hit an incumbent's record. But Kerry has only managed to even up with Bush, not to pull away. He said this is so unlike during the Vietnam war 40 years ago, when President Lyndon Johnson decided not to run for reelection, knowing he wouldn't win at all.

In the current race for the presidency of the University of the Philippines, there's a preponderance of lady candidates, and expectedly, the most visible and written about is the feisty former chief of the National Economic and Development Authority, TV host and INQUIRER columnist Winnie Monsod. I personally know two other female candidates: current UP Diliman chancellor Emeritilda Roman, who boasts of a well-rounded experience in the university's administration; and Dr. Georgina Reyes Encanto, whose main accomplishments during her term as dean of the Institute of Mass Communications was its elevation into a college in 1988, the establishment of the College of MassCom Foundation and the revival of the DZUE Tireless at MassCom's helm, she organized and implemented the Lopez Jaena Community Workshop for community journalists with the support of the National Press Club and UP for 12 years. Georgina is said to be a "dark horse" in the UP race inasmuch as her father, the late Virgilio Reyes, was former press secretary of President Diosdado Macapagal; though I'm sure she'd

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

rather be evaluated on her own merits.

Among the four male candidates, I cannot be begrudged for being partial to the Philippine ambassador to the United Kingdom, Edgardo Espiritu. I have known him for a long time, having served with him in various capacities—in the Alay sa Kawal Foundation, which he has chaired for 18 years, and Erila Foundation, among others. This genial, amiable guy has the knack for getting people of various temperaments to do things together, which is what UP needs. His international connections could help immensely in getting the funds for the urgent rehabilitation of UP which has slipped considerably in recent rankings among the best Asian universities. The grapevine says he's GMA's choice, but Ed's drawback is that he's 69, just a year away from the mandatory retirement age.

As with the US presidential candidates, the current crop of contenders for the top UP post leaves us comfortable in the thought that whoever is chosen by the UP Board of Regents next month will be "okay." May the best candidate win.

Last Saturday, I wrote about the criminal case filed by Antero Sison against three top executives of Edsa Plaza Shangri-la Hotel. He alleged that despite his complaint that a thief forced open his locker in the hotel's beach club and stole his wallet and credit cards, the hotel failed to inform him about the arrest of someone found in possession of fake keys to lockers there and of his stolen wallet. Because no complaint was lodged against the suspect, he was able to go free. I called up hotel

GM Wolfgang Krueger, against whom Sison is filing a deportation case, to get his side, but he refused to make any statement, except "I have nothing to say." Strange PR this guy practices.

Our colleague Re Zamora recently featured the new sunrise industry that's among the brightest spots in our horizon, the "call center" business. By chance, Cecile Alvarez and I invited to our 9:15 p.m. Sunday duRH show Jeannette S. Carillo, brand manager of Information Technology Services and officer in charge of the ICT Division of the Board of Investments; and Gina Arguiza, its investments specialist, to talk about this exciting field and its prospects for employing highly skilled Filipinos.

Readers who watched the second US presidential debates will recall that John Kerry has made it a campaign promise to "protect" US jobs. This has come about due to the fact that customer servicing in various fields have been "outsourced" in recent years from places like India, China and right here in RP. The thinking, however, is that US companies have little choice but to outsource these customer services, as the cost of labor in the United States has become prohibitive (cost in RP is only one-fifth of US cost).

Carillo revealed that the call center business began here four years ago with only one or two players who recruited workers only from the "exclusive schools" in Metro Manila. Today there are 66 players, mostly foreign-owned, catering to the biggest global clients. They are located mostly here in the metropolis, but at least four are in Cebu. A number are in Central Luzon. Two are to rise in Dumaguete and Davao City. One of the biggest call center outfits in the United States, Convergy, is now in Manila and has promised the government to set up five branches within the year. On the other hand, there are now 22 companies here engaged in transcribing medical records of US hospitals and clinics, employing over 1,500 medical professionals; and 20 companies in cartoon animation, employing 2,500 artists. More later.

Revisiting Dapitan

KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Antonio J. Montalvan II

ly did not include Rizal.

When we reached Dapitan, there was no more mistaking that the tide had turned in favor of the national hero. Dapitan is all about Rizal. The whole city (tiny as it is) is a living Rizaliana. Street names are consistently Rizal's: Noli me Tangere, Leonor Rivera, Mi Retiro, Crisostomo Ibarra. One student excitedly pointed out that there was even a small bakery named Rizal Bakeshop. This was too unbelievable coming from a disinterested generation.

Along the way to Dapitan, they kept asking if this or that city we passed by had a Gaisano, SM, or Jollibee. It suddenly didn't matter to them that in Dapitan there was not even a single Internet café.

It had dawned on them—not unlike a bolt of lightning, perhaps—that in Dapitan, Rizal was a hero and to denigrate him there, a town where there simply was unabashed pride for him, was simply not advisable. And we were not even at the Talisay shrine just as yet. But the cameras had started to click at Santa Cruz beach, where Rizal first set foot in Dapitan one dark evening, his path lighted only by a *fornal de combate*; and then at the town plaza where his relief map of Mindanao was; and at the spot in the St. James Church where he stood each Sunday to hear Mass. Across the plaza was the site of what used to be the Casa Real where Rizal first stayed in the company of town comandante Ricardo Carnicero. All these were, at that point, overwhelming for this unbelieving bunch of young people.

Chance to pray

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

big names associated with it, including longtime Greenhills resident, publisher Max Soliven. According to Soliven, the organized opposition includes the "presidents, chairmen, and leading members of the Greenhills Associations of San Juan, and the leaders of 30 condominium buildings around the Greenhills Shopping Center" in his Sunday column, Manong Max explains his opposition saying the mosque "would provide a 'sanctuary' and a 'base' not just for peaceful Muslim traders and the few Muslim residents in West Crame, but for Moro troublemakers from the notorious 'Golden Mosque' district in Quapo as well as from controversial areas in Taguig where another Mosque and Islamic district were established during the Marcos-Imelda hegemony. The fact is that many of the Greenhills vendors come from Quapo and Taguig already. Why take the risk of attracting Moro jihadis, gangsters, or violent types into our midst when the Muslims doing business in Greenhills are mostly non-residents and transients?" the residents testily ask. This is not an anti-Muslim attitude. We're simply defending our homes from probable threat.

Greenhills residents have proposed a compromise: turn the existing chapel in the shopping center into a non-denominational or an ecumenical "prayer room," where "Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, and everyone who seek to pray or meditate can use the same Prayer Room, and not get a 'headquarters' in what basically is a shopping center or place of commerce." This is certainly more reasonable than the more hard-line position of some Greenhills residents, which was

expressed by a Greenhills president and quoted by Soliven: "If it's all right for the Moros to have an Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao—indeed, Basilan even voted to join the ARMM only the other year—why are they complaining about our right to demand an Autonomous Region of Christian Greenhills? That's reconciliation, too, isn't it? Our nation's Constitution justifies and protects the ARMM, and nobody complains that the Muslims in that Muslim Autonomous Region are biased, bigoted, or prejudiced against Christians. Why can't the Christians have, in their own community, such a right protected, too, by our Constitution and our laws?"

I have seen the Muslims in Greenhills gathered together in hallways and other makeshift locations, kneeling on the floor and praying, as non-Muslim shoppers, with curiosity and fear on their faces, stroll by and stare at them. Surely, considering the requirements of Islam, and the sizeable number of Muslims who show up for work in Greenhills, they are entitled to pray in a place that affords them some dignity, quiet and peace. Turning the existing Catholic chapel into a prayer room might help, but raises the question of turning over consecrated space to non-Catholics. To avoid offending non-Catholics, the chapel would have to be stripped of all its Catholic iconography. It seems the only solution is the one being proposed by Ortigas and Co.: to build a prayer room, specifically for the Muslims.

But then you have the opposition of Greenhills residents. It is an opposition based on experience, but also, on an unhealthy dose of bigotry. In large part, the solutions being offered are unsatisfactory because of ignorance of the requirements of Islam. Given the strict and periodic prayer times required, could there be any other solution than building a place for Muslims to pray in? Unless Greenhills residents go to the extreme of forbidding Muslims to work in Greenhills, I don't think there is.

Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph

Missing section

It's probably a sign of the times.

The newspaper's Job Market section is attracting a lot of readers. I have been receiving letters from readers coming from different parts of the country asking why their copy of the *Inquirer* on Sunday does not contain that section. They have an "I was robbed" feeling for not being able to read about available job opportunities.

A reader, Eric Montoya of Malasiqui, Pangasinan, is angry about the absence of the Job Market section in the copies of the newspaper being distributed in his place. He wrote: "I do not read any other newspaper except yours. This letter is about something that has been bothering me for weeks. I do not know if you deliberately decided not to include that section for your readers in the provinces or you are not aware of this fact at all."

"Because of this, I have resorted to buying other newspapers on Sundays just to keep (myself) updated with the latest job openings in Manila and other parts of the country. No matter what your reason, I feel it is really unfair that we do not get the complete copy of the *Inquirer* on Sundays because, in a sense, you are depriving your provincial readers of opportunities."

"It is selective dissemination of information and it is very, very unfair. More so, we also buy your newspaper at an even higher rate than in Manila, but we do not get our money's worth. It's also unfair that we do not get the same amount of information as what readers in Manila get, even though we pay more money."

"I also tried going to Dagupan City, which is near our town to check, and I found out that, like the copies we get in Malasiqui, there is no Job Market section included in the copies on newsstands in that city. I would like to correct my earlier statement, I am not bothered—I am enraged."

Target audience

I sympathize with the reader and with those who are similarly situated and feel the same way. It can be very frustrating to look forward to reading a section of the newspaper first thing in the morning and not to find it.

What a lousy way to start the day for people who consider the *Inquirer* a mental "wakeupper," just like their favorite coffee. It can adversely affect one's mood for the rest of the day.

From my talk with the circulation and marketing staffs of the *Inquirer*, I learned that the Job Market section was initially conceived to be distributed only in Metro Manila; it was not meant for nationwide circulation.

No, it had nothing to do with discriminating against the "provinces" and favoring "imperial Manila."

There are two reasons for the limited distribution: first, most jobseekers are in Metro Manila and the companies that have job openings are based in the metropolis; second, newspaper sheets (the most expensive component of newspaper publication) will go to waste if copies of the section are sent to parts of the country that will not benefit from the information contained in it.

There is also an ecological angle to the scheme: every page that is saved means fewer trees cut and converted to newsprint. This, plus recycling old newspapers and using recycled ink, is the *Inquirer's* contribution to the international campaign to protect the environment.

The idea of limiting Job Market's reach to Metro Manila prompted a second look when the newspaper received numerous requests for copies of that section from readers outside the National Capital Region. They felt they have as much right as their Metro Manila counterparts to know the "work wanted" advertised in the *Inquirer*.

Distribution areas

Besides, many of the companies that place advertisements in that section (for example, Shoemart, Gaisano and the call centers) have expanded their operations to cities and provinces outside of Metro Manila. They prefer to source their employees from their new business areas.

With these considerations in mind, the *Inquirer* started distributing early this year the Job Market section to other parts of the country, outside Metro Manila.

Enumerating the areas where the section is now in circulation will be tedious, so I will instead name the places where, for the time being, it is not yet available, namely, Tacloban, Surigao, Butuan, Zamboanga, Palawan, Mindoro, Isabela, Tuguegarao and Bicol.

Incidentally, the circulation staff told me that Job Market made its debut in Pangasinan yesterday. I hope this bit of good news will make the reader from Malasiqui less angry at the newspaper.

The Job Market section will be distributed in more areas depending on the demand for it by the affected readers and on the areas of operation of the companies that advertise in it.

At the rate local and foreign investors are discovering the advantages—such as, lower cost of living, tax breaks and highly motivated skilled employees—of putting up their business outside densely populated Metro Manila, it will just be a matter of time before Job Market gets to cover the whole country.

The readers' advocate may be reached at the following address: "The Readers' Advocate" c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascorda Streets, Makati City. Or through fax nos. 897-4793 to 94, or reader-sadvocate@inquirer.com.ph.

THEY SAID

'Jueteng' ignoramus

"If the government does not even know the already well-known big time jueteng operators in Luzon, then what does it know?"

—Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz's reply to Manila's challenge that he present a list of officials receiving jueteng money

All-around focus

"You have to be interested in all segments of the economy. We can't just focus on the big corporations and ignore the small ones. Because the small ones feed the big ones."

—Former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamad

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers



**PHILIPPINE
LETTERS
DAILY
INQUIRER**

Remember the Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard caper?

A black and white photograph showing four men in military uniforms standing in a row, each saluting with his right hand. They are wearing light-colored short-sleeved shirts and dark trousers. To the right of the men stands a woman in a light-colored, knee-length dress, looking towards them. The background features a draped curtain and a doorway.

**MAY
KASAMA NANG
FOOD
ANG RIDES
NAMINI!**

Enchanted Kingdom

—ROLANDO G. RAVELO,
18 San Vicente St.,
Pacita Complex I,
San Pedro, Laguna

* Available on all desktops (32/64 bit) and 2007/2010/2013/2016/2019/2022/2023/2024/2025/2026/2027/2028/2029/2030/2031/2032/2033/2034/2035/2036/2037/2038/2039/2040/2041/2042/2043/2044/2045/2046/2047/2048/2049/2050/2051/2052/2053/2054/2055/2056/2057/2058/2059/2060/2061/2062/2063/2064/2065/2066/2067/2068/2069/2070/2071/2072/2073/2074/2075/2076/2077/2078/2079/2080/2081/2082/2083/2084/2085/2086/2087/2088/2089/2090/2091/2092/2093/2094/2095/2096/2097/2098/2099/2100/2101/2102/2103/2104/2105/2106/2107/2108/2109/2110/2111/2112/2113/2114/2115/2116/2117/2118/2119/2120/2121/2122/2123/2124/2125/2126/2127/2128/2129/2130/2131/2132/2133/2134/2135/2136/2137/2138/2139/2140/2141/2142/2143/2144/2145/2146/2147/2148/2149/2150/2151/2152/2153/2154/2155/2156/2157/2158/2159/2160/2161/2162/2163/2164/2165/2166/2167/2168/2169/2170/2171/2172/2173/2174/2175/2176/2177/2178/2179/2180/2181/2182/2183/2184/2185/2186/2187/2188/2189/2190/2191/2192/2193/2194/2195/2196/2197/2198/2199/2200/2201/2202/2203/2204/2205/2206/2207/2208/2209/2210/2211/2212/2213/2214/2215/2216/2217/2218/2219/2220/2221/2222/2223/2224/2225/2226/2227/2228/2229/2230/2231/2232/2233/2234/2235/2236/2237/2238/2239/2240/2241/2242/2243/2244/2245/2246/2247/2248/2249/2250/2251/2252/2253/2254/2255/2256/2257/2258/2259/2260/2261/2262/2263/2264/2265/2266/2267/2268/2269/2270/2271/2272/2273/2274/2275/2276/2277/2278/2279/2280/2281/2282/2283/2284/2285/2286/2287/2288/2289/2290/2291/2292/2293/2294/2295/2296/2297/2298/2299/2300/2301/2302/2303/2304/2305/2306/2307/2308/2309/2310/2311/2312/2313/2314/2315/2316/2317/2318/2319/2320/2321/2322/2323/2324/2325/2326/2327/2328/2329/2330/2331/2332/2333/2334/2335/2336/2337/2338/2339/2340/2341/2342/2343/2344/2345/2346/2347/2348/2349/2350/2351/2352/2353/2354/2355/2356/2357/2358/2359/2360/2361/2362/2363/2364/2365/2366/2367/2368/2369/2370/2371/2372/2373/2374/2375/2376/2377/2378/2379/2380/2381/2382/2383/2384/2385/2386/2387/2388/2389/2390/2391/2392/2393/2394/2395/2396/2397/2398/2399/2400/2401/2402/2403/2404/2405/2406/2407/2408/2409/2410/2411/2412/2413/2414/2415/2416/2417/2418/2419/2420/2421/2422/2423/2424/2425/2426/2427/2428/2429/2430/2431/2432/2433/2434/2435/2436/2437/2438/2439/2440/2441/2442/2443/2444/2445/2446/2447/2448/2449/2450/2451/2452/2453/2454/2455/2456/2457/2458/2459/2460/2461/2462/2463/2464/2465/2466/2467/2468/2469/2470/2471/2472/2473/2474/2475/2476/2477/2478/2479/2480/2481/2482/2483/2484/2485/2486/2487/2488/2489/2490/2491/2492/2493/2494/2495/2496/2497/2498/2499/2500/2501/2502/2503/2504/2505/2506/2507/2508/2509/2510/2511/2512/2513/2514/2515/2516/2517/2518/2519/2520/2521/2522/2523/2524/2525/2526/2527/2528/2529/2530/2531/2532/2533/2534/2535/2536/2537/2538/2539/2540/2541/2542/2543/2544/2545/2546/2547/2548/2549/2550/2551/2552/2553/2554/2555/2556/2557/2558/2559/2560/2561/2562/2563/2564/2565/2566/2567/2568/2569/2570/2571/2572/2573/2574/2575/2576/2577/2578/2579/2580/2581/2582/2583/2584/2585/2586/2587/2588/2589/2590/2591/2592/2593/2594/2595/2596/2597/2598/2599/2600/2601/2602/2603/2604/2605/2606/2607/2608/2609/2610/2611/2612/2613/2614/2615/2616/2617/2618/2619/2620/2621/2622/2623/2624/2625/2626/2627/2628/2629/2630/2631/2632/2633/2634/2635/2636/2637/2638/2639/2640/2641/2642/2643/2644/2645/2646/2647/2648/2649/2650/2651/2652/2653/2654/2655/2656/2657/2658/2659/2660/2661/2662/2663/2664/2665/2666/2667/2668/2669/2670/2671/2672/2673/2674/2675/2676/2677/2678/2679/2680/2681/2682/2683/2684/2685/2686/2687/2688/2689/2690/2691/2692/2693/2694/2695/2696/2697/2698/2699/2700/2701/2702/2703/2704/2705/2706/2707/2708/2709/2710/2711/2712/2713/2714/2715/2716/2717/2718/2719/2720/2721/2722/2723/2724/2725/2726/2727/2728/2729/2730/2731/2732/2733/2734/2735/2736/2737/2738/2739/2740/2741/2742/2743/2744/2745/2746/2747/2748/2749/2750/2751/2752/2753/2754/2755/2756/2757/2758/2759/2760/2761/2762/2763/2764/2765/2766/2767/2768/2769/2770/2771/2772/2773/2774/2775/2776/2777/2778/2779/2780/2781/2782/2783/2784/2785/2786/2787/2788/2789/2790/2791/2792/2793/2794/2795/2796/2797/2798/2799/2800/2801/2802/2803/2804/2805/2806/2807/2808/2809/2810/2811/2812/2813/2814/2815/2816/2817/2818/2819/2820/2821/2822/2823/2824/2825/2826/2827/2828/2829/2830/2831/2832



SINGAPORE AIRLINES

4-11 1-800-4-A-FLY

FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: leo_davao@inquirer.com.ph

FOR INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTS CALL Ms. MARIANNE G 287-0277 AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING BRANCHES

'Lumads' OK mining in S. Cotabato

KORONADAL CITY—The Catholic Church here said it respected the decision of the B'laan tribespeople in Tampakan, South Cotabato allowing the operation of a mining company in their villages.

The B'laans had previously worked with the Diocese of Marbel against the activities of the Australian firm Western Mining Corp. (WMC) in the hinterlands of Tampakan.

With the backing of the diocese's Social Action Center (SAC), the tribal group, which claimed that mining would destroy their livelihood, succeeded in shooing away the company.

But recently, at least five B'laan tribal councils, which joined the anti-WMC fight, signed an agreement with the Filipino-Australian company Sagittarius Mining Inc. (SMI).

Juanito Malid, Salnaong tribal chieftain and former community

organizer of the diocese's justice and peace desk, said they decided to support SMI because practically, all the B'laans were supporting it.

He said the firm was also fulfilling its promise to develop the villages.

Fr. Romeo Catedral, SAC director, told reporters here on Friday that they were saddened by the decision.

He alleged that the B'laans gave their support only because SMI lured them with monetary rewards, vehicles, infrastructure and scholarships.

"We don't call it bribery but deception. We believe that they were forced to go with the flow because of the present development projects, but with this they are endangering the future generation," he said.

But he said the Church would continue the fight against SMI

and other companies wanting to exploit the wealth of the area.

The hinterlands of Tampakan and the adjoining areas of Kiblawan in Davao del Sur and Columbo in Sultan Kudarat were reported to contain one of Asia's biggest copper and gold deposits.

Catedral said SMI's activities in the area were detrimental to the indigenous flora and fauna "and could leave grave negative impact on the entire biodiversity of the region."

"Any mining operations within the area would adversely affect the water supply in South Cotabato, North Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and General Santos City," he said.

But Rolando Doria, SMI's overall project coordinator, said his company's commitment to responsible mining could be the main reason the tribespeople gave their approval.

He said their operations "will never cause damages to lives and properties."

Samirh Musali, village chair of Datal Biao in Columbo town, said they knew that mining would not make them rich.

"All we want is for our constituents, particularly those in Sitio Salnaong, to have a decent life, with ready access to basic social services like education, health and livelihood," he said.

Doria said that if the clergy was serious about preserving the environment, they should work with SMI.

"We need the help of the Church people and other vigilant groups in the implementation of our environment protection program. They can call our attention if they think what we are doing is detrimental to the environment," Doria said.

Aquiles Zonia and Jeffrey Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau



THIRTY EIGHTH WEEK

These elderly citizens join the week-long annual celebration for seniors during a parade in Baguio City.

TOOTS SOBERANO

Politics, land cited in failed P2.5-B seaport project

By Emir Emano Gamis
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

SORSOGON CITY—Investors in the P2.5-billion international seaport in Castilla town have backed out due to land acquisition problems.

The proposed "all-weather" seaport was expected to employ some 40,000 people in Castilla and create economic boom in Sorsogon.

Circum Pacific Terminals Inc. (CPTI), the project proponent, had cited the location of the seaport as an ideal shelter for vessels during bad weather and more accessible from Manila to the south as ships would not have to pass through the treacherous San Bernardino Strait.

CPTI had lost interest in pursuing the project after failing to acquire some portions of land along the

main site of the proposed seaport, based on the hearing conducted by the Provincial Board last month.

The portions of land are owned by businessman George Arellano, with 253,797 square meters, and Rafael Lasalita, caretaker of Francisco Lasalita, with 11,829 sq.m. The proposed site has a total land area of about 65 hectares.

Castilla Mayor Renato Laurensa had accused Gov. Raul Lee of blocking the project and "influencing" Arellano, whose land was where the groundbreaking ceremony was held on January, despite the latter's earlier approval to sell his land.

The Arellano-owned restaurant in Sorsogon City even catered food for the groundbreaking events, showing his assent to sell

his land; while all of Lasalita's family wanted to sell their land, except for Rafael, Laurensa said.

Arellano opted to lease his land for the 35-year build-operate-transfer contract between CPTI and Castilla. CPTI did not find it acceptable.

Lee countered that the project was just on paper and that Laurensa failed to submit the necessary documents to concerned government agencies.

"It seems there is a breakdown of communication. A project of this magnitude can't bog down by a counterproposal of one person who owns only 1.5 to 3 hectares," Arellano said.

During the hearing, Laurensa also argued that they could not secure other legal requirements since

the project had bogged down in the land acquisition phase alone.

Gemma Belgica, who brokered between CPTI and Castilla, said the investor lost interest in the project "because of [a] series of setbacks."

But she clarified that the business plan CPTI submitted to the National Economic and Development Authority meant partial compliance of the feasibility study.

A full study would have been submitted if the land problem did not crop up, she said.

Vice Gov. Krums Escudero, NEDA regional director Marlene Rodriguez, and representatives of the Department of Agrarian Reform, Provincial Assessor's Office and other agencies, called for unity to continue the project.

Man runs amuck, kills 1, hurts 8

TUGUEGARAO CITY—A vendor was killed and eight others, including a 4-year-old girl, were wounded after a man, who police said was refused a meal in a market stall, ran amuck on Saturday night.

Police said Marlon Ramos of Alcala town, and a companion, Arnel Ventula, were in the old public market at about 6 p.m. Saturday.

When stall owners refused to serve them food, Ramos reportedly pulled out a knife and started stabbing anyone who came near him.

Police said Michael Chua, 22, a vendor, was killed while four others were wounded.

After the stabbing spree, Ramos, reports said, commandeered a tricycle and asked the driver to take him to the Buncun Highway. After he alighted, Ramos started attacking people there and wounded four others.

Police identified the wounded as Ernelyn Joy Maluan, 4, Lucy Lagundi, Leicia Aquino, Adeline Balisi, Teresita Eclipse, Rhondee Balisi, Peter Roca and Alicia Aguilar.

Reports said Ramos later surrendered to policemen. Police were still looking for Ventula. Estanislao Caldes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Funding woes won't stop Sorsogon festival

SORSOGON CITY—This year's Kasangayahan Festival will proceed even without the usual funding from the provincial government, the head of the foundation tasked with overseeing the event said.

Magr Francisco Monje, Kasangayahan Foundation Inc. (KFI) president, said Gov. Raul Lee had informed him that the provincial government would not release the fixed grant of P300,000 for the celebration, to heed the national government's call for austerity measures.

"For me, it's not that we're relying on it. The provincial government has set the budget from the very start as its own obligation and duty in the promotion of Sorsogon's heritage and culture," Monje said in defense of criticism that the KFI has relied solely from the government's disbursement since the festival was first observed in 1994.

"In fact, every year the foundation has spent more than P300,000 to run the festival. We have not complained and we have not asked for more than P300,000 so how can it be said that we're relying on it?" he said.

Monje clarified that Lee still supported the celebration but the governor had asked them to remove activities that will involve big budget.

The festival, held from Oct. 17 to 23, started in Sorsogon in 1994, coinciding with the province's centennial celebration, and is considered the province's main festival along with the Pil. Festival.

Due to the government's declaration of a fiscal crisis, even the provincial board has called for a simple celebration.

Monje said the festival would run only for one week, not the usual two weeks' celebration, and would have no cultural presentation and competition on Pantomina sa Tinampo, one of the main attractions.

Other events that will be retained in the program are the pilgrimage to Siuton, Magalanes—claimed to be the site of the first Mass in Luzon, trade fair, heritage lecture, and the cultural presentation "only in the city," according to Monje.

He stressed that the festival "has put Sorsogon in the map and slowly imbibes that (it) is not just a matter of dancing in the streets and parades but a celebration of our history, culture... and the heritage of Sorsogon."

"In fact, a lot of people might not know that last year, through the efforts of the DepEd, a lesson plan was made about Sorsogon history, geography and culture," he said.

The lesson is taken up the whole month of October from elementary to high school, according to Monje.

He noted that the pilgrimage to Magalanes is continuously drawing pilgrims as far as Albay and said that they hope the Pantomina sa Tinampo will draw more crowd as a pot luck street party will be held later as an added feature. Emir Gamis, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Holdup man killed, 9 others nabbed in Bulacan, Pampanga

CAMP GEN. ALEJO SANTOS, Bulacan—A suspected member of a robbery group was killed while nine of his companions were separately arrested in Bulacan and in Pampanga on Friday.

Senior Supt. Felizardo Serapio Jr., Bulacan police director, identified the fatality as Edgardo San Roque, said to be a member of the Rivera-Lacanlao robbery group operating in Bulacan and Pampanga.

Serapio said San Roque engaged in a gunfight in Candaba, Baguio Salapungan in Candaba.

Reports said his companions, brothers Bienvenido and Joel Lacanilao, brothers Cesar and Percival Adriano, Ferdinand Sampaiga and Francisco Lusara were later arrested in San Miguel and

San Ildefonso towns, both in Bulacan.

Serapio said three other suspects were arrested in San Luis, Pampanga.

He said policemen were about to serve arrest warrants to the suspects in their hideouts in Candaba, Pampanga at about 7 a.m. when they opened fire at the lawmen.

The incident happened five hours after the group reportedly robbed a family in Barangay Salangan in San Miguel. The robbers took P150,000, pieces of jewelry and other valuables, and an Isuzu Crosswind van from the house of Fernun Malana.

Serapio said those arrested were involved in several robberies in Bulacan. Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Let's hear it for Babyflo Gentle Buds for winning in the 11th Asia Pacific Excellence Awards

Congratulations for being voted as one of the world's best quality cotton buds

Babyflo Gentle BUDS

QUALITY PRODUCTS FROM PHILISA CORPORATION

MORE MILES FOR MORE SMILES

Singapore Airlines gives you more reasons to smile. Fly via SIA and earn more miles through the KrisFlyer loyalty program. Plus you and your loved ones have the chance to get free tickets and accommodations to your chosen destination. There of course, with the inflight service even other airlines talk about.



KrisFlyer

ROUNDUP

Scholarship grants

DAVAO CITY—The Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific is offering full scholarship grants to students, aged 17 to 21 years old, who are pursuing a degree in Marine Transportation or Marine Engineering. Examinations for prospective enrollees will be held at the Notre Dame of Dadiangas College in General Santos City on Oct. 23; Davao City National High School in Davao City on Oct. 24, and at the Zamboanga City National High School (West Campus) on Oct. 30. For details, call Lt. Commander Gerlo Elchico, chair of board of admissions, at 02-5354542, 5272110 and 0917-5338263.

Forester's death probe

DAVAO CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo has ordered a deeper police investigation into the Sept. 28 killing of a government forester, Mayor Rodrigo Duterte said. Ms. Macapagal visited the wake of Isidro de la Peña on Friday last week. De la Peña, 60, was driving his niece to the school when a motorcycle-riding gunman shot him in Barangay Matina here. A suspect, Moises Potal, was later arrested based on information provided by witnesses. De la Peña was known for his strict enforcement of forestry laws.

Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Housing for DENR workers



ILAGAN, Isabela—Environment Secretary Michael Defensor has approved the implementation of a socialized housing project for employees of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Isabela. Defensor during a recent

visit here, said the project was one of his flagship programs and would be implemented in other provinces. "We have at least 800,000 hectares classified as alienable and disposable land nationwide," he said. At least 71 DENR employees here will be given 200-square meter residential lots each. Defensor asked provincial DENR officer Felix Taguba to prepare the proclamation papers of a 2.12-hectare property in Barangay Osmeha for the project.

Vilmar Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DENR employee suspended

ILAGAN, Isabela—An employee of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Cagayan Valley was suspended for 90 days on Friday for allegedly demanding P70,000 from a farm owner. Alejandro Cebanilla, land management specialist of the DENR-Cagayan Valley, is also facing an administrative investigation for the offense, Antonio Principe, DENR regional director, said. Principe said businessman Rogelio Uy earlier asked Cebanilla's help for the immediate approval of some documents so he could sell his farmland. Cebanilla reportedly sat on Uy's request for several months and allegedly demanded money to speed up his papers' processing.

Vilmar Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Seaweed pilot areas

TUGUEGARAO CITY—The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Cagayan Valley has started developing the local seaweed industry with the establishment of pilot farm areas comprising at least 65 hectares in Buguey, Claveria, Sta. Teresita and Sta. Ana towns. Elpidio Palattao, BFAR seaweed action officer, said the bureau also made available more than 90 hectares of coastal and inland pilot areas in Gonzaga and Claveria. If these areas were planted with seaweed, which is made into cosmetics and pharmaceutical products, 2,385.54 metric tons could be harvested before the year-end, he said. Palattao said foreign investors were interested in financing the local seaweed industry.

Estelisa Caldas, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Cop, woman shot

QUEZON, Isabela—A policeman and a woman were shot and wounded by armed men during a bus robbery in Barangay Aurora here on Sunday. Police said PO1 Arnold Verbon, who was assigned in Nueva Vizcaya, exchanged gunfire with three men who robbed passengers of the Florida Bus. Verbon and another passenger, Jonalyn Munar, who was hit by a stray bullet, were taken to a hospital in Roxas town. Senior Supt. Napoleon Estelias, Isabela police director, said the robbers, who boarded the bus in Tuguegarao City, took away more than P41,000 and S1,201, and mobile phones from passengers as well as Verbon's M-16.

Vilmar Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Seminary homecoming

SORSOGON CITY—The Our Lady of Peñafrancia Seminary in Bilibican here is calling on all its graduates and those who had enrolled even for an hour to be part of the OLPS Alumni Homecoming 2004 on Oct. 16. The gathering is a dry run for the 80th anniversary celebration of the OLPS in 2005. For details, the alumni were told to call the OLPS Alumni Foundation Inc. or lawyer Jess Fumera, OLPS Alumni Association president, at (056)-2111993 or (0919)3186875.

Food help for poor kids



LEGAZPI CITY—Before the government's food assistance for at least five million families nationwide, some poor children had had their first taste of the food assistance, said Ma. Elena Caraballo, deputy director of the National Council for the Welfare of Children. President

Macapagal-Arroyo has released P5 million for the "Bright Child Project," which aims to give supplemental feeding to children in nutritionally depressed municipalities in the country, according to Caraballo. The amount covers a daily meal for children for 120 days. Caraballo said children from poor towns in Bicol and Eastern Visayas were the priority recipients. She noted that Bicol, with 17 municipalities under dire poverty, had the most nutritionally depressed children in the country.

Cherry Garrobal, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Bishops ask poor to donate to gov't

DAVAO CITY—Amid reports of hunger stalking thousands of families in the country, Catholic bishops are urging the poor to give away everything they could to the country "to prick the conscience of the rich."

Catholic schools will start collecting donations from the poor—drivers, housemaids and laundry women—and hand them over to government officials and legislators so that they, in turn, would give up their pork barrel and help solve the fiscal crisis, Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla said Thursday.

"No one is so poor that he cannot give, no one is so rich that he cannot receive," Marist Bro. Manuel de Leon, director-at-large of the Catholic Education Association of the Philippines (CEAP), said when asked about the move to generate help from the poor despite reports of hunger due to rising costs of food and other basic commodities.

"It's not the amount that is important here but the symbolic act of giving," said Capalla after meeting with 43 heads of schools on Wednesday to discuss the move.

"Seeing that the poor is giving away the last that they have to their country will prick the conscience of the rich and encourage them to do the same," said Capalla, who also heads the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

The heads of schools are all CEAP members from Mindanao. A similar meeting was held in Cebu in September, where 22 schools took part in the discussions. The CEAP has over 1,200 members nationwide, with student populations ranging from 200 to 13,000 each.

"We want to remind the people of the discipline of the Cross, the sacrificial element of fiscal discipline, for poor people to give their hard earned money to the government [to] prick the con-

science of those who have more," he added.

He said the move followed his previous call for religious leaders to give up a portion of what they receive from the Church to help the government weather the fiscal crisis.

Capalla said every school would come up with creative ways to encourage the poor to give up something that they have to help the government.

Although the move might generate skepticism among some sectors, especially with the latest Social Weather Stations report on rising poverty in the country, Capalla said, "this has always been the teaching of the Church since the beginning of time."

"We know that we will be met by skepticism, but the point is not the amount that we give, but how it will help change the attitude of people," he said.

"We want to support the government's call for Alay Gobyerno, Alay Pil-

ipino, to promote fiscal discipline by encouraging people to live within their means, the lack of which had caused the fiscal crisis in the first place," he said.

Many people from the Visayas and Luzon have expressed willingness to give something to help the government, said Capalla. He refused to disclose more details pending the announcement after the CBCP meeting in Manila on Friday.

Aside from cash contribution, he said, everybody was encouraged to share time and talent for the government.

"Students can volunteer to clean the streets outside, or to contribute P1 for the usual things that have been neglected by the government. We might be offering collections to government officials, as a symbolic gesture for the people's love of country," he said. Germeil-na Lacorte, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Celebrex (celecoxib) has been making people with pain and arthritis feel better for years.

And now we want to ease your mind too.

You have probably heard that Vioxx (rofecoxib), a COX-2 medicine for arthritis and pain, has been withdrawn from the market because it increased the risk of heart attacks and strokes. The information below should assure you about the safety of Celebrex (celecoxib) which is also a COX-2 medicine.

Celebrex (celecoxib) is in the same general medication class as Vioxx (rofecoxib), but it is not the same medicine.

Each COX-2 medicine has its own chemical structure. And at the molecular level, small differences in chemical structure can make a big difference in how they affect you. What is true of one medicine is not necessarily true of the other.

Important patient studies with Celebrex (celecoxib) show strong cardiovascular safety.

Numerous studies of Celebrex (celecoxib) showed no increase of risk of heart attacks or strokes.¹ In a recent United States of America FDA (Food and Drug Administration) sponsored study of 1.4 million patients, those who received Celebrex (celecoxib) showed no increased risk of heart attacks.²

Patients treated in clinical studies of up to 4 years show no increased cardiovascular safety concerns.

Over 27 million people have turned to Celebrex (celecoxib) to ease their pain.³

All medicines have risks and benefits. Be sure to consult your doctor about any questions you may have regarding Celebrex (celecoxib).

A public service announcement from



Life is our life's work.
www.pfizer.com.ph

¹ White, Faich, Borer, Makuch. Cardiovascular Thrombotic Events in Arthritis Trials of the Cyclooxygenase-2 Inhibitor Celecoxib. The American Journal of Cardiology. 2003 92:411-418.

² Graham et al presented at International Society of Pharmacoeconomics August 2004 and accepted as an abstract at American College of Rheumatology, October 2004. In a retrospective study, no increased risk of heart attacks or sudden cardiac deaths relative to those who had not taken NSAID for at least 60 days.

³ NDC, August 2004.

From page A1

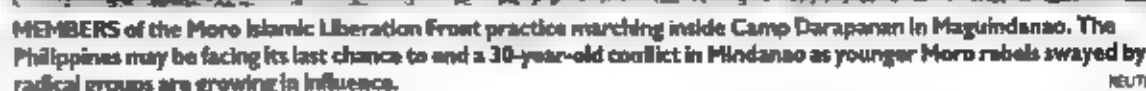
Division

Power struggle

Murad, 54, is deeply respected within the MILF, but is seen as more moderate than his predecessor, charismatic preacher Salamat Hashim who died of a heart attack last year.

More radical

Murad earlier said peace in Mindanao was "within our grasp" and that the MILF was "ready to sign with the government a negotiated political solution that is just, lasting and comprehensive in order to terminate the ag-



old conflict in Mindanao."

through a Malaysian monitors

Murad has welcomed the arrival of Malaysian ceasefire monitors who are helping to end a bitter and lengthy conflict with government forces. The Malaysian team arrived in the Philippines on Saturday and were formally deployed in key areas in Mindanao yesterday.

tingent would visit Mt. Kararao, alleged lair of some 60 JI terrorists purportedly being coddled by some members of the rebel group.

"It's not in the itinerary but the peace monitors could always decide to go there if they see the need," Kabalu told the INQUIRER.

He said the United States and Australia should also participate in the inspection if only to "once and for all put to rest allegations that the MILF is coddling JI terrorists."

Murad said there would be no peace with Manila if sections in the military remained intent on fanning allegations that the MILF sheltered militants from II.

"Frankly, we feel there are people in government who don't want peace in Mindanao," Murad said, stressing that while President Macapagal-Arroyo appeared sincere in negotiating, unnamed officials could be "manipulating the situation."

US involvement

Continuing allegations about the JI may be designed to get the US military involved in Mindanao, a scenario that could cause further bloodshed, he warned.

Murad said that after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States in 2001, the MILF closed all its camps in Mindanao to foreign-

However, he admitted that in the past, Islamic scholars from the Middle East and even Europe and the United States were "ordinary visitors" to Camp Abubakar, once the MILF's main stronghold in Mindanao. *Reports from Reuters; AFP; Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau, and Christian V. Esguerra in Manila*

Studies on prayer power stir controversy

From page A1

one is clear about what constitutes a "dose." Some researchers have tested a few prayers a day by individual healers, while others have had entire congregations pray together.

Another problem concerns the mechanism by which prayer might be supposed to work. Some studies suggest that prayer might have a soothing effect that works like a placebo for believers who know they are being prayed for.

Resentment

Either way, many churchgoers resent the very notion that prayer is being subjected to scientific scrutiny.

"There's no way to put God to the test, and that's exactly what you're doing when you design a study to see if God answers your prayers," said the Rev. Raymond J. Lawrence Jr., director of pastoral care at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center.

The reverend's main objection: "This whole exercise cheapens religion, and promotes an infantile theology that God is out there ready to miraculously defy the laws of nature in answer to a prayer." *New York Times News Service*

Misamis Occidental

celebrating 75th Anniversary

Come and join in our magnificent sports and recreational competition!

National Golf Cup

November 6-7, 2004
Registration Fee: P 3,000.00

Plus a chance for the Champion's name to be engraved into the perennial trophy to be displayed at the Governor's Office.

National SCUBA Diving Safari

November 12-14, 2004

P 1,000.00 Early Registration
P 1,750.00 Late Registration
Includes a FREE accommodation at our Misamis Occidental Aquamarine Park's Hotel and Guest Cottage.

National Tennis Open

for elected officials

November 19-20, 2004
P 3,000.00

Champion: P40,000 w/ Trophy
Runners-up: P20,000 w/ Trophy

National Eco-Adventure Race

November 22-23, 2004

P 1,000.00/Team Early Registration
P 1,500.00/Team Late Registration

1st Prize: P40,000 w/ Trophy
2nd Prize: P20,000 w/ Trophy

Mt. Malindang Climb Challenge

November 19-21, 2004
P 300.00

Includes: T-Shirt, ID, Certificate, Transportation, Town, Dinner and Snacks.

National Shooting Competition

November 12, 13, 14, 2004

P 1000.00 Level 1 Category

All winners will be awarded with specially designed Trophies!

National Chess Open

November 19-21, 2004
P 300.00

1st Prize: P30,000
2nd Prize: P15,000

Mt. Malindang Paragliding Show

November 24, 2004

FREE PACKAGED TOUR

Tropic Culinary Festival

November 3, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

Aquasports and Recreation Jambara

November 13, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

Class-bottomed Boat Race Product EXPO

Mayday Holiday Park at Mt. Malindang

Marina Recreational and Recreation Center

Misamis Occidental Aquamarine Park

Misamis Occidental Federal District Landmark

Fiesta Parade

November 13, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

Product EXPO

November 3-4, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

Misamis Occidental Festival

November 13-14, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

Misamis Occidental Festival

November 13-14, 2004
No Registration
Fee Required

tanong
Bayan **ABC** **Tuwing**
Huwabes,
10:30pm

I-lex ang inyong "tanong sa bay" sa 2910. Pabal nanin ang pinakatangaling na sagot. Ang premyo linggo-lagay leang 21" color TV set!

I-tyax: INCITY - ang inyong sagot, -dubong pangalan -
-syudad co-ordinasyon-, ligos parhas sa 2910. Cu-ol time:
WEDNESDAY: 6 PM. Winner will be identified during
the Incity program Thursday, 10:30pm, on ABC.

text
2910

Winston sa GSIS,
atbp. Oras na
bang bumaba?


Multa ang ban sa mga sagot ninyo. Tlod nal
"yes, employees of a govt employees, by a govt
employees & for d govt employees,
not for one main alone."

Millagros Zuriga, Bacoor, Cavite

"Tad dapi bumaba c winston itc kya lng naman gail
akanya dadi sa reform na gawin nya sa gila, we
a really crucial 2 gas future."

Roses Rangel, QC

CUTIE WORLD HUNT



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CONTACT NO. _____

HOW/WHEN

Where did you buy this copy? Please check:

☐ News stand/Newsboy ☐ Subscription

Friend Period: Sept. 27- Dec. 14, 2004

Deadline of Entries:

Monthly Draw: October 17 and Nov. 17, 2004

Grand Draw: Dec. 14, 2004

Draw Dates:

Monthly Draw: October 22 and Nov. 22, 2004

Grand Draw: Dec. 21, 2004

See posters and print ads for details.

Per DT/ Parent No. 2147, series of 2004

Drop in drop boxes located at Apple and Robinson's children's libraries, and all USC and Netopia branches. You may also mail entries to: Cutie World Hunt, PO Box 3146, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-0314.

EXPERIENCE OVER 55 DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE

Singapore Airlines takes you to over 55 destinations including vibrant Australia, India - home of the magnificent Golden Temple and gateway to scenic Punjab, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, London, Manila, Melbourne, Perth, Rome, Seoul, Sydney, Taipei, Tokyo, Vancouver, Wellington, Zurich and beyond. In route, enjoy KrutWorld, World Gourmet Cuisine and of course, the inflight service team offer services tailored about



Generals, solons linked to graft

From page A1

loyalty but this has never been questioned," the retired officer said.

He said he talked to Garcia about two months ago to inquire about the case of his (Garcia's) son, Ian Carl, who was held at a US airport last December for not declaring he had \$100,000 in his possession.

The retired officer said Garcia apparently was not aware that US authorities were pursuing an investigation of him and his son.

"Garcia was very confident because he was already cleared by the Armed Forces. *Sabi pa ng ninyang mga heneral natin, sir, nagpapili noong elekyon* (He said, sir, our generals, they allowed themselves to be bought in the last election)," the retired officer quoted Garcia as saying.

The source said Garcia also facilitated the release of funds that were channeled to "the presidential elections" allegedly in favor of one candidate.

The retired officer, however, would not elaborate. "Those things go without saying," he said.

He said Garcia also talked about money that the AFP had given to congressmen and senators who supported the AFP legislative agenda.

Shady list

Money was also allocated to "maintain" congressmen and senators who would endorse certain military contracts that might need congressional approval, the source said.

"The lobby fund is not illegal but the source, where it came from, it came from conversion, that makes it questionable," the Inquirer source said, referring to the alleged practice in the military of releasing funds for goods or services that were not delivered.

Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr. (Lakas, Surigao del Sur), chair of the House panel in the Commission on Appointments, said Cabinet officials and generals seeking CA confirmation of their appointments would need to undergo lifestyle checks.

Pichay warning

Pichay advised those linked to graft cases similar to Garcia's not to bother to submit their papers to the CA for confirmation of their appointments.

"The CA will reject their appointments outright and even file the appropriate cases for their investigation and prosecution by the House and other agencies concerned," he said.

He said lifestyle checks on Cabinet appointees and generals had become necessary in the face of allegations that some military officers had amassed wealth beyond their legal means.

Pichay said the probe of Garcia's supposedly unexplained wealth should "extend to the higher echelons of the military as there are other generals who likely benefited from the bribe and grease money he got from suppliers."

"The principle of command responsibility makes the superior officials of Garcia also accountable," he said.

"The investigation and lifestyle probe should

be conducted [also] in the PNP where a police general is reportedly under investigation by PNP-Internal Affairs and the Ombudsman for amassing millions of pesos in protection money from illegal gambling operators," he said.

Referring to officers being considered to replace AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya, who is set to retire this year, Pichay said: "In the case of the personalities jockeying for the chief of staff position, we must determine if they have any participation at all in corruption."

"A dirty chief of staff will just help perpetuate the corruption prevalent in the military," the congressman said.

Golez committee

The aim of the House inquiry into Garcia's case is to help Congress craft remedial measures to address the problem of alleged large-scale graft and corruption in the Office of the Comptroller of the Armed Forces, as well as other graft-prone units in the defense-military establishment, Rep. Rolito Golez said in a statement.

Reform of the AFP is one of the top legislative agenda items before the House defense committee that Golez chairs.

Golez said the results of the inquiry would have a significant bearing on the budget of the AFP and support for its modernization program.

"Members of the House, and the public in general, are concerned that funds for the AFP might just be mismanaged and misappropriated through overprice, kickbacks and bribes, if remedial measures are not instituted," he said.

"Moreover, even military assistance from the United States may be jeopardized," Golez added.

Golez said developments in the Garcia case were being monitored by the US Congress, which will evaluate and approve military assistance to the AFP.

Who else got rich?

Golez said his committee would dig deeper into the case to find out "who else in the AFP-defense establishment may be involved."

This would include the suppliers and contractors reportedly mentioned by Garcia's wife in a communication to US authorities, he said.

"The world is watching how the AFP leadership and the government in general will address the serious graft and corruption and reform of the AFP," Golez said.

Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., vice chair of the Senate national defense committee, disagreed that there was a need for Congress to step into the mess at this time.

He said Congress should leave the investigation to the Ombudsman's office.

"It would be better if Congress stays out of it," Magsaysay said in an interview. "It might complicate things."

He said that, maybe, Congress could "jump in later."

Magsaysay urged the AFP to coordinate with the Ombudsman's office in the probe of Garcia.

He said he talked to Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz and asked him to pursue the Garcia case with decisiveness.

"And he (Cruz) said he'll do his best," the senator said.

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, chair of the Senate committee on national defense and security, also said his committee had no plans to embark on an investigation of Garcia, saying the House of Representatives was already set to conduct its own probe.

"Imagine two houses investigating one thing," Biazon said in a phone interview.

But the senator, who once served as the AFP chief of staff during the administration of Corason Aquino, said he would be "watching and monitoring" the House investigation.

And it would only be then, he said, that he would decide whether or not there was a need for his committee to step in.

Still, Biazon said he intended to ask defense and military officials about the status of Garcia's case when they attend his committee's hearing today.

The national defense committee is to hear a Senate proposal for the creation of a national disaster management commission.

Biazon said he had invited Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz to attend the hearing.

The Office of Ombudsman has charged Garcia with dishonesty, gross misconduct and conduct prejudicial to the interest of the service over supposed discrepancies in his statement of assets, liabilities and networth.

Garcia has been placed under preventive suspension by the military. With reports from Carlo Pablo, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Christine O. Avendaño

Colleagues in military tell Robles to shut up

From page A1

know their names." He said only the US authorities could identify these officials with alleged unexplained wealth and only after they were indicted.

Robles, one of a group of idealist officers implicated in a coup plot in 1986 against the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, said corruption in the military was an old issue.

As a member of the fact-finding Feliciano Commission which looked into the root causes of last year's short-lived Oakwood mutiny, Robles and another commissioner, former Air Force Capt. Roland Narciso, submitted a "minority report" that tackled specific cases of corruption in the Armed Forces.

Fear of demoralization

"I gave the President a copy of the report, but nothing came of it. And now they are telling me to shut up," Robles said.

Malacañang yesterday expressed concern that failure to punish corrupt officials in the military or in the government could fuel restiveness among sol-

diers.

"We have to prosecute the officials involved because they would serve as bad examples and this could lead to demoralization," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in an interview on radio dzBB.

"The President will not protect anyone, including any member of her Cabinet, but the important thing is fairness," Bunye said.

He appealed to those making the allegations to provide proof of their claims instead of making general accusations.

Lifestyle checks

"How can we have an investigation if there is no evidence?" Bunye asked.

The secretary earlier vowed there would be no whitewash in the investigation of General Garcia or any other official who failed the lifestyle check.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. has warned that a whitewash could spark a mutiny in the military similar to the Oakwood uprising by 300 soldiers, who denounced alleged widespread corruption in the Armed Forces. With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

Panasonic LCD Projectors

More Features. Price Unmatched.

Why buy a basic projector that is just a little advanced than an OHP when you can own the latest from Panasonic at a price you won't believe.



PT-LB10 Series
 1024x768 2000 ANSI LUMENS LCD Projector
 1000W 1000W 1000W
 1000W 1000W 1000W
 1000W 1000W 1000W
 2.1 kg only

Anti-theft Feature:
 User Password
 Control Panel Lock and
 Text Superimposing

UNIQUE FEATURES

- 5-Second Speed Start
- One-Touch Auto Setup with Digital Keystone Correction
- Direct Power off (no cooling time needed)
- Unique Index Window (Spills screen into two)
- Auto Power-off
- Projector AI (Automatically adjusts the needed brightness and color to the optimum depending on the room condition.)
- Wireless live presentation capability (keeps effects and animation)
- Allows Multi-Live view of two or four PC's altogether.
- Wireless operation range- 50m*

* LB10NTE only

COSMOTECH

Manila- Tel: 759-2484 (12 lines), 9200241, 9200954, 9298758, 4263023
 Cebu- Tel: (032) 4223201/4223202 Davao: (082) 2268693/ 2268694

Learn their secrets and be on your way to success. Listen to our country's top executives & educators as they unravel various strategic options engaged by companies that were successful in managing or creating a CONVERGENT MARKET.

AGORA CONFERENCE 2004

marketing renaissance in a CONVERGENT market

October 28 - 29, 2004
 Shangri-La Hotel Makati

PROGRAMME

October 28, 2004

8:00-9:00

Registration
 Opening Remarks
 Mr. Jose Ortega
 President, Philippine Marketing Association

9:00-10:15

Module 1: Principles of Market Convergence
 Session 1
 Introduction to Market Convergence
 (Principles and Components of Market Convergence)
 Mr. Karen V. De Asa
 Faculty and Marketing Director
 DLSU Graduate School of Business

10:15-11:30

Session 2
 Market Convergence: Market Technology-Debate
 (Risks of Failure of Convergence Market)
 Mr. Ferdinand M. De La Cruz
 Head, Wireless Business Group, GLOBE Telecom

11:30-12:00 pm

Synthesis/Open Forum
 Dr. Leonardo R. Garcia, Jr.
 Dean, Professional Continuing Education
 DLSU, College of St. Basil

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

LUNCH BREAK

PM Sessions

1:15-2:30

Module 2: Managing in a Convergent Market
 Session 3
 Strategic Options in a Convergent Market
 (Competing in a Convergent Market and the Financial Benefits of Success in this Market)
 Sec. Luis P. Lorenzo, Jr.
 Presidential Adviser for Job Generation and
 Chairman of Jang Bank and Quadecor

3:00-4:15

Session 4
 Managing Convergent Markets
 Marketing Management Tools engaged by successful companies in a Convergent Market
 Mr. Tom C. Banguls Jr.
 President, AB Communications Inc.

4:15-4:30

Synthesis/Open Forum
 Mr. Luz T. Supbo
 Assistant Professor, De La Salle University

October 29, 2004

AM Sessions

8:15-10:15

Module 3: Preparing or Planning for a Convergent Market
 Session 5
 Convergent Market: Can Managers Anticipate?
 (Predicting Industries That are Ripe for Convergence)
 Mr. Benvenido C. Niles, Jr.
 President, AC Nielsen- Asia Pacific

10:15-11:30

Session 6
 Convergent Market: Can Managers Shape It?
 (Influencing the shape and trend of Market Convergence)
 Mr. Amable R. Aguilas, V.
 President, AMA Education System

11:30-11:45

Synthesis/Open Forum
 Mr. Mylene Albar-Sazon
 Chief Executive Officer, Palm Multi-Media Inc.

11:45-12:00

Closing/Prize

REGISTRATION RATES
 (Per Individual)
 Single 27 Oct 27, 2004 P 7,000.00
 Double P 13,000.00
 Student P 3,500.00

SIGN UP NOW!!!

REGISTRATION FORM
 Please Fax to
 636-1451; 687-7763



PHILIPPINE MARKETING
 ASSOCIATION

AGORA CONFERENCE 2004
 October 28 - 29, 2004 Shangri-La Hotel, Makati

NAME OF COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL NO.: _____ FAX NO.: _____

Name of Authorized Sending Officer: _____

E-mail: _____

Mobile: _____

Name of Delegate(s): _____

Nickname for ID: _____

Position: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Name of Delegate(s): _____

Nickname for ID: _____

Position: _____

E-mail Address: _____

For further inquiries, please call the Secretariat, PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION, INC. at phone numbers: 634-1630; 634-6722; 631-3286 or e-mail pma@phlonline.com

RP stock market: Asia's bright light or black hole?

From page A1

Japan's Nikkei 225 index has been struggling at around 1.5 percent.

In New York, the Dow Jones Industrial Average is down around 4 percent, while in London the FTSE 100 is up by just over 2.0 percent.

In recent weeks, the Philippine market has surged to highs not seen in more than four years, much of the rise being driven by inflows of foreign capital.

According to data from the Philippine Stock Exchange and estimates by ATR Kim Eng Securities, net foreign investment up to Oct. 7 was worth nearly P7 billion (\$125 million).

And all this in a country facing a budget deficit amounting to P200 billion (\$3.5 billion), an external debt running to \$56 billion and half of its 84 million people living on less than P112 (\$2) a day.

Poverty level

Poverty has reached such a level that the government recently announced it was considering giving out monthly food coupons worth P1,200 (\$21.30) to some 5 million families nationwide. The cost of this food program alone is expected to reach P6 billion (\$100 million) a month.

So what has changed? According to Martin Enrile of ATR Kim Eng Securities, "in one

word... it's perception."

"Last year, no one cared about the Philippines, least of all fund managers. The perception outside was one of great uncertainty. The country was facing an election and a huge fiscal deficit," Enrile said.

"We have had the election and President Gloria Arroyo is back in her own right. She has laid out her vision for the future while at the same time admitting there are problems."

"This honesty I think has given comfort to investors, especially those foreign fund managers who stayed away. Another factor has been the surprisingly good corporate earnings so far this year."

But Enrile did voice a note of

caution: "Unless the government can deliver on its promises the foreign funds will go."

Seize opportunity

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said recently the Arroyo administration with its new mandate had a "unique opening to break from the past by addressing longstanding economic weaknesses and boldly pursuing a vigorous far-reaching agenda of economic reforms."

"Seizing the opportunity will be crucial for addressing the Philippine economy's vulnerabilities to external shocks while helping to underpin investor confidence and improve debt dynamics," the IMF said.

"This will lay the basis for stronger and more sustained economic growth and job creation and contribute to significant poverty reduction over the medium term."

Tax measures

This was echoed by ratings agency Standard and Poor's, which warned last week that the Arroyo administration's failure to pass key tax measures in the next three months would be crucial.

S&P noted that Ms Arroyo admitted in August that the country was in a fiscal crisis and her administration's difficulty in cutting costs and getting Congress to pass eight key revenue measures to keep the

deficit in check.

Despite Ms Arroyo's efforts amid a growing concern over the issue, the passage of these remedial measures has been "slow," or even blocked by political pressures and congressional squabbling, S&P said.

This could be taken as a signal that "the political class is unwilling to swallow the bitter medicine" and that despite her victory in the presidential elections in May, Ms Arroyo and her allies in Congress still could not carry out reforms, S&P warned.

"The administration has said all the right things... it has sent out all the right signals," ATR Kim Eng's Enrile said. "The hard part will be the delivery."

AFP

Casino money OK, but not 'jueteng,' says bishop



CAPALLA

From page A1

This much Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla admitted as he revealed that clergymen could be benefiting from gambling, which the Church preaches and campaigns against.

Capalla, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, said some priests, and even bishops like himself, had sent needy people for financial assistance to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., which oversees legalized gambling in the country, including casino operations.

Acceptable practice

This was acceptable practice he said, because most of Pagcor's

beneficiaries were the same poor families being served by the Church.

In this aspect, "bishops just [serve as] a conduit to Pagcor," Capalla told reporters in an interview at the CBCP office on Friday.

Pangasinan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, former CBCP president, earlier slammed Pagcor as a perpetrator of Philippine society's moral deterioration.

Church coffers

Capalla clarified: "We're not saying it's OK to gamble; we're just saying that at this point, only the government can help."

Apart from the aid that Pagcor extends to people that the priests

send over, Capalla said, gambling money also makes its way to the Church coffers via donations. "What can you do [if] it's offered by the people? Some do it to pay for their sins."

Priests don't ask questions about such donations, he said. "I don't know whether it is appropriate [to ask]. And if some bishops are doing something [else with the donations], well, they are left to their own conscience."

But he was "glad" that Cruz had spoken up, Capalla said. He reiterated the CBCP's support for the Pangasinan prelate's vigorous antigambling crusade.

Last week, Cruz claimed that four high public officials were receiving some P6 million a month

in jueteng payola. The government has dared him to name names.

Sin, not sinner

"I'm happy he [Cruz] did not," Capalla maintained. "As spiritual leaders, we condemn the sin not the sinner. We don't expose people to ridicule."

Besides, he said, if the government really wanted to find out, it should use its intelligence agencies and not force Cruz to "break confidences."

According to Capalla, the Church condemns jueteng primarily because it victimizes the poor who don't have enough to feed their families, to begin with. For these people, he insisted, gambling was "a form of survival."

On the other hand, he said, "only those who can afford to play in the first place go to casinos. Most of them are not even Filipinos; they're from Taiwan and Singapore."

He also admitted that "in some places," the Church had failed to make the victimized faithful understand that gambling was addictive.

Capalla pointed out: "During times of crisis, I've noticed two places that people frequent more—churches and lotto stations. It is clear that [gambling] is giving false incentives." Unfortunately, he said, "we have failed to develop in people a consistent conscience that they can stick to."

Food coupons could hardly alleviate poverty

From page A1

in September 2003, according to the survey.

And to think that Mindanao is a rich agricultural region, where tilling land can be a fallback for the poor. In Metro Manila, the incidence of households that went without food at least once in the three months before the survey increased to 15.7 percent, more than double the 7.3 percent almost a year ago.

Emergency

It is no solace that the 15.1 percent incidence of hunger nationwide did not breach the record 16.1 percent set in March 2001. Of the 15.1 percent of about 15.3 million households, 11.8 percent experienced hunger once or a few times (described as moderate hunger) while 3.3 percent experienced it often or always (severe hunger), according to SWS.

We don't see in these figures

the likes of the famine that blights the wretched poor in equatorial Africa, but they are enough to jolt the administration into taking immediate measures to relieve hunger and to respond to it as an emergency. Here, I am avoiding the overused word "crisis."

While we recognize that poverty has been an endemic social issue that requires long-term measures for its alleviation, missing meals, even only occasionally, is an acute situation fraught with implications for political stability, social unrest and the viability of an administration.

Inflation has something to do with the inability of households to eat three meals a day. It rose sharply in August, rising to its highest level in 34 months at an annualized 6.6 percent, according to data from the National Statistics Office. The rise was reflected in the SWS survey of hunger inci-

dence at about the same time.

Minimum wage

The NSO reported a 10.8-percent rise in the cost of services in August. But minimum wage remained static, and for a household to catch up with the increase in the cost of living, it has to earn 7 percent more.

There was a confluence of costs that fueled inflation. Cooking gas increased to an average of P360.20 per 11-kg cylinder from P276 last year.

This year, Meralco raised its rates twice for a total increase of 30.64 centavos per kilowatt-hour. The Light Rail Transit Authority in Metro Manila, raised fares, while rising diesel prices pushed the minimum jeepney fare to P5.50 from P4.

The rise in gasoline prices was blamed for the higher transport cost and power rates. There is a tendency to look for a political explanation for the jump in the

prices of goods and services, with some blaming the heavy election spending for fueling inflation.

Stop-gap measure

One cannot make a case with this political argument, which is a cheap shot. It can only be part of the explanation that includes the inability of the administration to exercise its supervisory powers and responsibility to put a lid on the costs of utilities—a very important component of the cost of living.

The hunger statistics jolted the administration into taking measures that have little to do with poverty alleviation. The administration right away responded with plans to issue food coupons to the "poorest" families in the country, a stop-gap response.

The coupons will, of course, enable acutely distressed families to procure food on public subsidy, to stave off hunger momentarily. An estimated 5 million families

may receive the coupons. This response is typical of the social welfare department's relief for national emergencies due to calamities, such as flooding, typhoons, fires and volcanic eruptions. Except that the scale of the relief is larger and that coupons could hardly alleviate poverty.

Losing control

Food relief does not create jobs. The creation of one million jobs a year is one of the key elements of the President's 10-point agenda. But before Ms Arroyo can even show that her economic program has created some jobs, the administration is already being set back by a national emergency.

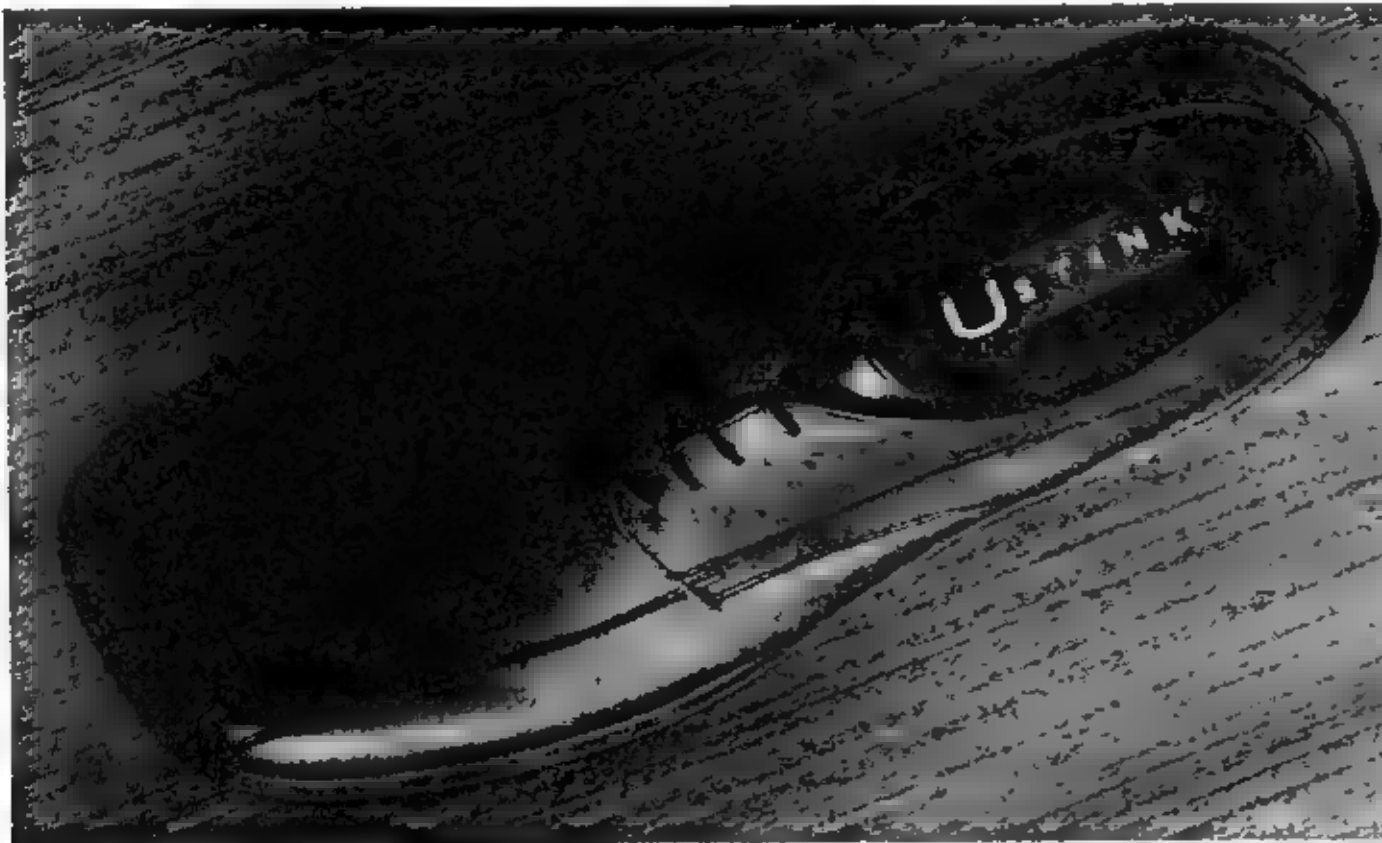
Since July 1, the administration has been jumping from one economic and social shock to the next, rather than setting a momentum. It is being swiftly overtaken by events that can get out of hand. It is losing control.

The administration's eight tax reform measures—key elements of the package to reduce the fiscal deficit—are stuck in Congress. Although the President's party coalition has majority control of Congress, this is wasted and she is unable to use it to speed the passage of tax reforms.

The Standard & Poor's Ratings Services has warned the country of another credit downgrade because of "a continued inability to effect fundamental changes."

The rating service points out that of the eight revenue measures needed for fiscal adjustment, the initial hopes of passing four of the eight before the end of the year have "withered away" with Congress in recess until November.

It warned that failure to pass the measures might mean the entire tax reform initiative losing momentum and getting bogged down in endless negotiations in Congress.



OVER 55 DESTINATIONS. ONE AIRLINE.

Singapore Airlines takes you around the world to over 55 destinations. Take your pick from these packages, complete with Economy Class airfare and hotel accommodations. En route, enjoy the inflight service even other airlines talk about.

| SINGAPORE | KUALA LUMPUR | BALI | BANGKOK/ SINGAPORE | KHARTOUM/ SINGAPORE | AUSTRALIA | MALEDIVES | DELHI/ AMMABAD |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| from US\$ 308 | from US\$ 368 | from US\$ 418 | from US\$ 418 | from US\$ 458 | from US\$ 658 | from US\$ 798 | from US\$ 1,428 |

For more information on all above packages, please call your travel agent or SIA Travel Desk at 231-5551 in SG. For departures from Tokyo/Beijing, please call SIA Product Reservations in Tokyo at (03) 232-9271 and Beijing at (010) 244-5688. All prices quoted are per person based on round-trip and include taxes, fees and surcharges. Single supplement surcharge applies. Discount applies to children below 12 years old. Book for above packages valid from October to December 2004. Peak season surcharge applies for departures on 22 October, 15 November 2004 and 16-21 December 2004. Other terms and conditions apply.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

A SINGAPORE AIRLINES MEMBER
www.singaporeair.com/ph

LTRFB to charge P30,000 for FX franchise shift

By Clarissa S. Batino

GETTING out of limbo will cost owners of Asian utility vehicles (AUVs) operating as public transportation.

Maria Elena Bautista, chair of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTRFB), said the agency would be allowing the conversion of a public utility vehicle (PUV) franchise to an AUV Express franchise in exchange for P30,000.

PUV franchises include garage service and other specialized public ferry services.

Operating as jeepneys

An AUV Express franchise, on the other hand, is one that would allow AUVs to operate as air-conditioned jeepneys that charge per head.

AUVs include Toyota Tamaraw FXs, Isuzu Hi-Landers, Toyota Revos and Mitsubishi Adventures. These are 11-seater, air-conditioned vehicles that are currently seen ferrying passengers along various routes in Metro Manila.

Bautista said many of these PUVs were already operating as AUV Express units while waiting for their franchise.

She said the conversion fee would be in lieu of the stiff

penalty that the government could slap on PUV owners that have been operating outside the provisions of their franchise.

"We are actually offering an amnesty to those who have been operating outside their franchise for years," the LTRFB chair pointed out.

Bautista added, "Based on the law, we could impose a penalty of P200 a day. These FX [owners] admitted they have been violating [the provisions] since 1998."

P450,000 penalty

She said that should the agency apply the full penalty, it could mean a fine of about P450,000 for each PUV operator.

There are 9,044 applications currently in limbo that could be converted to AUV Express franchises once the transportation department issues an order allowing them to do so.

Bautista said the agency could collect about P27 million in additional revenue from the conversion fee. This would be much lower compared to more than P4 billion the government could generate if it applied the full penalty.

The LTRFB collected P350 million from fees and charges

last year. She said as of September, the agency was 45 percent ahead of its nine-month revenue target.

"The order for the AUV Express is for the signature of the secretary. It could come out very soon," Bautista said.

She then explained, "This order would legalize the operation of the FXs that line up in terminals and charge per head."

No to mega taxis

The LTRFB chief pointed out that the 5,766 mega taxis currently operating would not be allowed to convert their franchise to AUV Express.

Mega taxi operators would have to give up their franchise and apply for one for AUV Express.

However, Bautista said these might not be granted immediately since there were already 9,044 franchises waiting for potential conversion.

In the meantime, she said mega taxis should use their meters, limit their passengers to five and remove the seats at the back to give way to cargo starting Sept. 16.

Otherwise, she said, they would be classified as "colorum," fined and penalized.

500 colorum PUVs nabbed

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has intensified its drive against "colorum" or illegally operating public utility vehicles (PUVs) plying Edsa to "ensure the effectiveness" of the agency's traffic projects.

MMDA General Manager Robert Nacianceno said the agency impounded 500 colo-

rum PUVs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 7, 2004.

Nacianceno said 400 of the apprehended vehicles were passenger buses while the rest were FX mega taxis and private vans illegally conveying commuters.

He said the agency put up five checkpoints on Edsa for the apprehension of colorum vehicles.

These checkpoints are su-

pervised by traffic policemen with the rank of superintendent to ensure that errors are avoided during apprehension, Nacianceno said.

The MMDA official explained, "It is only logical to rid Edsa of these colorum vehicles in order to make our traffic projects, like the Organized Bus Route and bus terminals, work and function efficiently."

Watchman dies fighting rob suspects

By Tarra V. Quismundo

A SECURITY guard died on Saturday while defending his post from what police believed was a notorious robbery and kidnap-for-ransom gang.

Avelino Bello, 29, a resident of Western Bicutan, Taguig, was killed as he attempted to prevent attacking armed robbers from entering the store he was guarding.

PO2 Alexander de la Cruz, investigator from the Western Police District Station 10, said that five men on board two cars arrived at JS Rice Marketing on Otis Street, Paco, Manila at about 7:40 p.m.

Police said Bello got hold of his shotgun but the suspects shot at him first.

The watchman was hit in the head by a bullet, causing him to die on the spot.

Investigators gathered that the gravely wounded Bello was able to fire his shotgun as he fell down.

He, however, failed to hit any of the suspects.

Guard shot again

As Bello laid bloodied on the pavement, the robbers, armed with handguns and rifles, shot him again several times in the face in an apparent move to make sure that he would no longer be able to put up a fight.

The men then went inside the store. Fortunately, cashiers had already locked the cash registers in the office.

They also refused to open up despite threats of robbers to blow up the store with an improvised bomb: a bottle of gin filled with gasoline.

De la Cruz said the robbers left empty-handed after the roughly two-minute operation.

They apparently sensed that policemen were on their way.

Bystanders who saw Bello's shooting had reported the incident to the police.

De la Cruz added that the gang might have also planned to kidnap the store owner.

THE DAILY GOSPEL



Monday, October 11, 2004
28th Week in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-32
Gospel: Lk 11:29-32

As the crowd increased, Jesus began to speak in this way, "People of the present time are evil people. They ask for a sign, but no sign will be given to them except the sign of Jonah. As Jonah became a sign for the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be a sign for this generation. The Queen of the South will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and accuse them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and here there is greater than Solomon. The people of Nineveh will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and accuse them, for Jonah's preaching made them turn from their sins, and here there is greater than Jonah."

Commentary

"If only God would give me some clear sign!" said Woody Allen, "like making a large deposit in my name at a Swiss bank." The author of the Book of Jonah might have used that one, had there been Swiss banks then. It's the funniest book in the Bible. The "sign of Jonah," as interpreted by Matthew's gospel (12:40), is his spending three days and nights in a whale's belly and then being regurgitated on the shore, but not before he had composed a lengthy prayer to God from his very unusual location—some of it quite remote from his predicament. "Those who serve worthless idols forfeit the grace that was theirs..." But Luke's gospel avoids this dull image altogether. For Luke the sign of Jonah to the Ninevites is his preaching.

The basic and more usual meaning of sign in the Scriptures is something that indicates the existence or the presence of what it signifies; it points beyond itself to something present. Only rarely does "sign" mean an omen or portent; these would refer to future events, but a sign is about the present.

The best sign would not draw attention to itself but to what it signifies. The simpler and the less distracting it is, the better. The whale's belly hardly bears thinking about, and for that very reason it holds our attention (disguising things do). But the preaching of Jesus is clear and unambiguous and it points our attention directly to God.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, 1101, Philippines. Tel: 921-3684; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@claret.org; Website: http://www.bible-claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

ASIA TRADERS INSURANCE CORPORATION
is pleased to announce the change of its corporate name to:

ASIA INSURANCE (PHILIPPINES) CORPORATION

A Member of Asian Insurance International Group

as approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission and registered at the Insurance Commission.

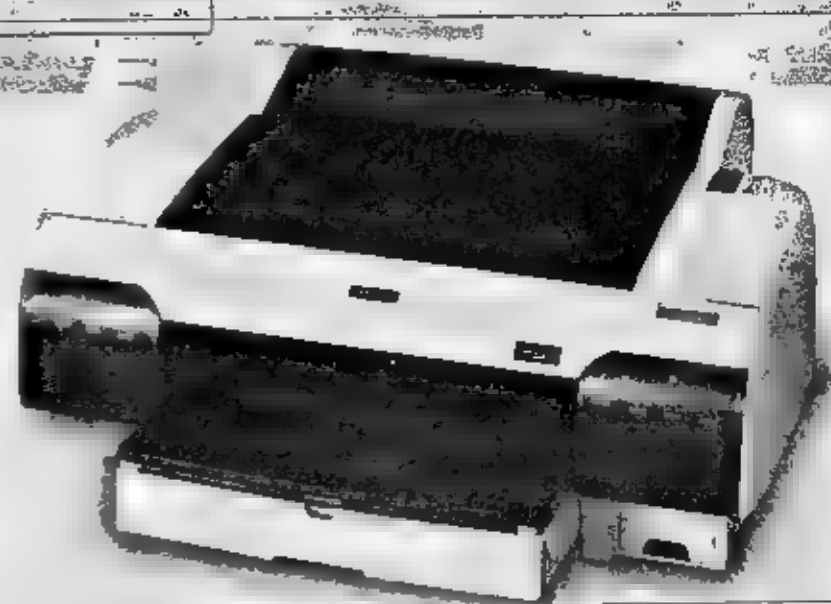
The new corporate name signifies the commitment of the Asian Insurance International Group to support their Philippine Company with financial strength, management expertise and reinsurance backing.

The principal companies of the Asian Insurance International Group are Standard & Poors' rated and leading general insurers in Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia

EPSON

EPSON'S **AMAZING
BUNDLING PROMO!**

RELOAD



STYLUS PRO 4000 at P119,995

- Max. resolution 2880 x 1440 dpi
- Max. paper size - 17" width
- Cut sheet or Roll feed
- Epson's 8-color UltraChrome™ Ink

and get

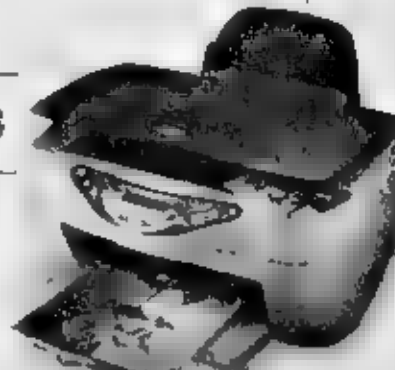
FREE

STYLUS Cx5300 at P10,995

"All in one scanner, printer & copier"

**HURRY!
GET IT
NOW!**

Promo Period:
Sept. 20 - Oct. 31, 2004



Per DTI-MCR Permit No. A3-650, Series of 2004

Computer Graphics, Inc.

CGI Building 23-25 Gilmore Ave. Cor. Aurora Blvd., New Manila, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. No.: (632) 725-4376 to 77 • 722-4425 • 722-4750 • Fax: 725-4666 • 725-4375
E-mail: sales@computergraphics.com.ph

SUERTRES 8 4 1
(In exact order)
EZ2 21 26

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

1 20 27 41 42 44

METRO

Text us your feedback: Inquirer met name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Ester G. Dikapuph
Assistant Editor Canon B. Biba

3 men nabbed for wanting to fly kites

By Tarra V. Quismundo

CREATIVITY can get one arrested.

Three members of the labor group Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) were arrested yesterday in Manila after they tried to raise awareness for higher wages by flying kites at the Quirino Grandstand.

Edison Malanog, 36, Jose Ne-

fiel, 36, and Joey Eduarte, 33, all Quezon City residents, were arrested at about 9:30 a.m. while preparing to fly kites bearing their call for a P125 across-the-board wage increase.

Western Police District (WPD) officers said the three KMU members did not have a permit for the activity.

The three men said they were

supposed to hold a symbolic kite-flying at the national park.

Nine KMU members were at the park and were expecting more to arrive when the arrest was made.

The kite-flying demonstration coincided with a thanksgiving celebration of television network GMA-7 at the grandstand.

"We had no intention to hold a

rally. We just wanted to fly kites," said Nefiel, while he and the two other suspects underwent investigation at the WPD General Assignments Section.

WPD Station 5 policemen said they arrested the KMU members because these did not have a permit to hold their activity at the park.

Police confiscated banners,

streamers and kites.

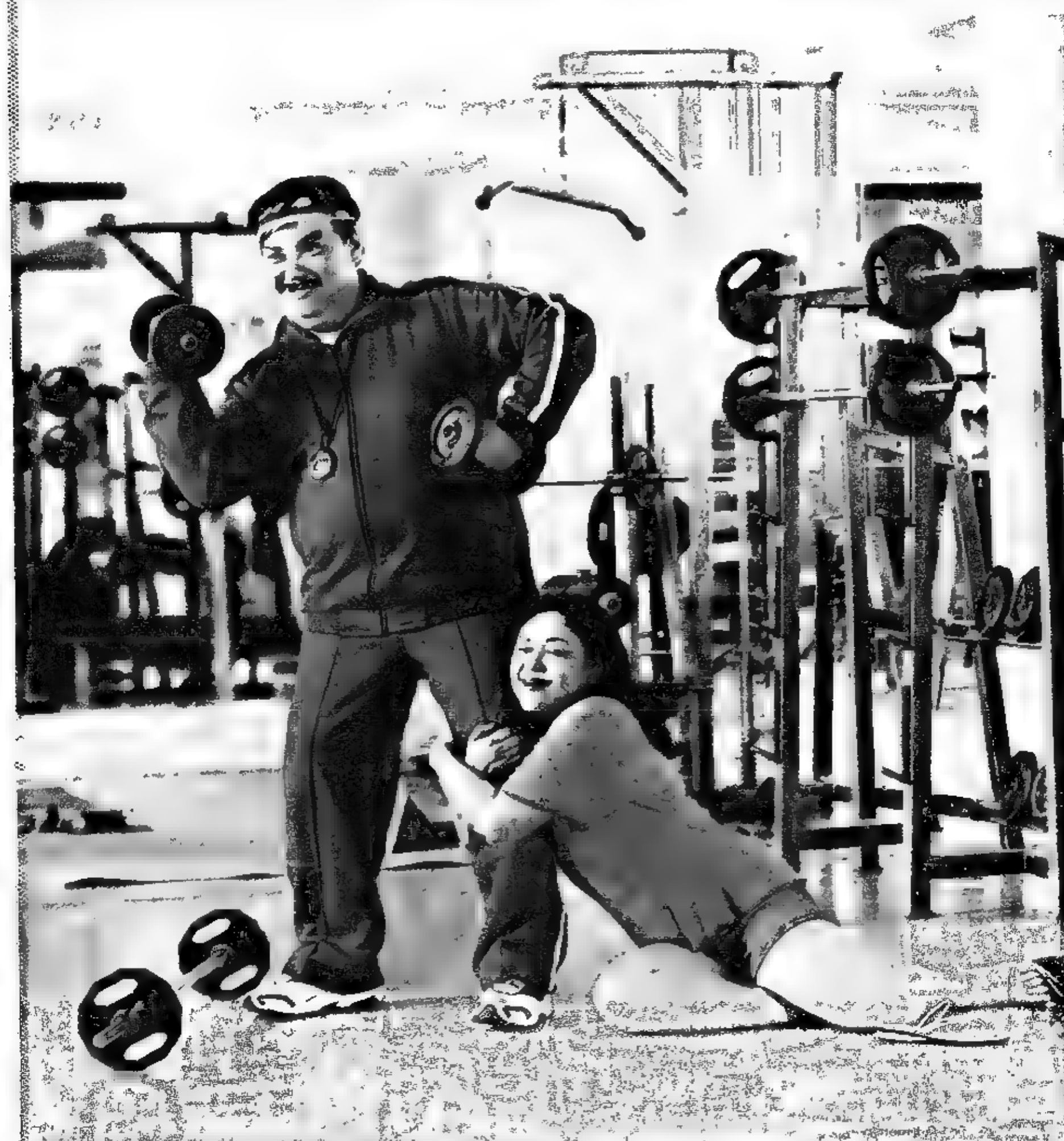
"I was even with my family," said Nefiel in Filipino. "The national park is supposed to be for everybody, whoever you are, you could go there."

The three suspects face charges of breach of peace, a violation of a city ordinance, and littering, an offense against a presidential decree.

PO2 Alberto Saygo Jr., case investigator, said they would verify with Manila's Bureau of Permits whether the men had any permit to hold their activity.

Should it be determined that they indeed did not have a permit, the three men would be charged with illegal assembly.

The city implements a strict no permit, no rally policy.



Tire blast kills 1

By Edson Tandoc Jr.

A 20-YEAR-OLD welder was killed after a bus tire exploded in his face Saturday in Quezon City.

Killed was Noe de Guzman, an employee of Victory Lner bus company.

His fellow employee Salvador Buendia sustained injuries, police said.

Investigator PO3 Juan Mortel said that at about 4 p.m. the other day, Buendia removed a tire with a defective rim from one of their buses at the company terminal on Baler Street, Barangay Patok.

He then asked De Guzman to fix the tire's rim.

But when De Guzman was starting to weld the rim, the tire, which was still filled with air, suddenly exploded in front of his face.

The impact caused serious injuries in his face and head, killing him instantly, Mortel said.

Buendia, who was nearby, sustained minor injuries in his body.

However, the blast may have damaged his hearing, Mortel added.

Buendia is still being treated at the East Avenue Medical Center.

Polite crooks strike

TWO MEN appeared at the front door of former police Supt. Romulo de la Cruz's home at the corner of SS Loyola and Matimyas Streets, Mani-

la, and greeted him "Good morning" and "How are you?"

Then the two pulled out guns before proceeding to rob the retired policeman of P100,000 in cash and valuables. Tarra V. Quismundo

You'll be unforgettable

Imagine you giving her passion-filled hours. It's easy, once you've discovered the fast and sure way to improve erection: Ask your doctor how to "live it up!"

LIVE IT UP!



Bayer HealthCare



GSK

From Lebanon to Malabon.

Sa over 170,000 international at 6,500 local agent locations, siguradong may isang malapit sa iyo. Mas marami pa nga sa mga gasoline stations dito sa Pilipinas

Uniting people with possibilities™

WESTERN UNION

MONEY TRANSFER

BASKETBALL: NBA Pre Season - Heat vs. Rockets, 7:30 a.m. (P-9 p.m.); Solar Sports - See Shaq debut for Miami as the Heat face Houston and its newly acquired star - Tracy McGrady.
WNBA Finals Game 2, 2:30 p.m.; ESPN - Will it be the coronation night for one team or will the other squad extend the series?

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A25

SPORTS TV
 Compiled by L. Mangual

SPORTS

Text us your feedback: inquirer.sports@inquirer.com.ph or 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor: Teddyvic S. Malendrea



On tlay, hind baala-basta burnibigay.

Barangay Ginebra bounces back

Castillo, new team leader, steps up as Hotdogs defang Tigers



KERBY Raymundo of Purefoods attempts a reverse shot under pressure from Rudy Hatfield of Coca-Cola during third-quarter action of the two teams' game last night. The shot rimmed out.

ALBERT DELACRUZ

By Musong R. Castillo

A BARANGAY Ginebra side slowly rounding out to peak form tripped Sta. Lucia, 88-84, last night for its first victory in the Gran Matador PBA Philippine Cup.

The Kings' starting backcourt scored all but 30 of the team's output with Jayjay Helterbrand scattering 23 and Rodney Santos contributing 22.

With Mark Caguioa chipping in 13, not much was required from Eric Menk offensively. The Ginebra cornerstone collected a night-high 16 rebounds, though.

GAME TOMORROW
 (Xavier Gym, Cagayan de Oro)
 6 p.m. — Red Bull vs. Shell

| STANDINGS | W | L |
|--------------|---|---|
| Talk 'N Text | 2 | 0 |
| Purefoods | 2 | 0 |
| Coca-Cola | 1 | 1 |
| Fedex | 1 | 0 |
| San Miguel | 1 | 1 |
| Red Bull | 0 | 1 |
| Alaska | 0 | 1 |
| Shell | 0 | 1 |
| Ginebra | 1 | 1 |
| Sta. Lucia | 0 | 2 |

It was a shot in the arm for the Kings, who got beaten black-and-blue, 87-104 last week by Purefoods, which jumped to a share of the early lead earlier with a 78-76 decision of Coca-Cola.

"We were off in the first game. I am not offering excuses, but we just came into the tournament half-prepared," said Ginebra's Siot Tanquing Cen. "There were a

lot of injuries during the off-season and we never were really able to prepare."

Ginebra actually blew several double-digit spreads in the first half and even trailed in the third before Helterbrand and Santos hit timely baskets that doomed the Realtors to a second straight loss.

Flaunting the same look but playing with a winning attitude, Purefoods won consecutive games for the first time in close to a year.

Noy Castillo scored the team's final four points and snared the game's most important rebound as the Hotdogs jumped off to their best conference start in two seasons.

"We just got tired of losing. We've been losing heavily," said coach Ryan Gregorio.

CASTILLO/A26

SMART BALITANG MILYONARYO

Bawat Load,
P1 Million
 Araw-Araw
 Papremyo!

May **10%**
 Extra Load Pa
 Agad-Agad!

PARAMI NA NG PARAMI ANG NAGIGING SMART MILYONARYO!

1st Week Winners:

| | |
|--|--|
| September 25 Draw Regina Darjuan Navotas, Metro Manila | September 26 Draw Florabel Palmares Dugay, Ilocos |
| September 27 Draw Cherrica Marbas Bata Alaga, Nueva Ecija | September 28 Draw Rosalie Olabiaga Naga City, Bicol |
| September 29 Draw Ar-gie Benito Lirandeta, Pangasinan | |

2nd Week Winners:

| | |
|---|--|
| September 30 Draw Diosdado Paglalunan Gen. Timoteo St., Cagayan City | October 1 Draw Momie Fetalvero Valenzuela, Metro Manila |
| October 2 Draw Gweneth Remigio Novaliches, Q.C. | October 3 Draw Raiff Joseph Miranda Lubang, Quezon |
| October 4 Draw Michell Dy Calatagan, Batangas | October 5 Draw Jesus Jhenrey P. Reginales Talisay, Sorsogon |
| October 6 Draw Mary Ann Antonio Imus, Cavite | |



Kaya ano pa'ng hinihintay n'yo? Register for FREE at mag-Load na Araw-Araw!

Sa halagang P30 lang, maaari ka nang maging SMART Milyonaryo! WINNER KA SA SMART!

| SMART Load Disbursement | 10% Extra Load | Number of Entries Earned |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| P30 | P 3.00 | 1 entry |
| P60 | P 6.00 | 2 entries |
| P115 | P 11.50 | 10 entries |
| P200 | P 20.00 | 20 entries |

SMART
 Simply Amazing!

See posters and flyers for details.
 Promo is from September 28 to October 24, 2004.
 For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-8111.
 *All using your SMART cellphone, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent to assets of the FREE TEXT allowance), e-mail us at customerservice@smart.com.ph or log on to www.smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

NOT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.
 But you can do something about it.
Medical Enlarger Pump.
 No More of a Man.
True Amazing Results.
 OPEN DAILY 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM
 ProGRIP USA

*Daily entries earned per load are qualified for the daily draw but will be reflected the following day.
 SMART Mobile Transactions will not count towards entries.



Come together at **PETRON Treats**
 Everyone deserves a treat.

Taguig five a win from NBC North title series

FORWARD Taguig drew first blood in the NBC (National Basketball Conference) North division semifinal series Saturday by turning back the Batangas 29ers, 77-70, at the CP Tinga gym in Taguig.

Veteran point guard Ogie Gumatay scored 13 of his game-high 17 points in the fourth quarter to move Mayor Freddie Tinga's Taguig cagers within a win of a finals seat in the tournament sponsored by Panasonic, Spring Cooking Oil, PCSO, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Sulpicio Lines, Cebu Perries, Air Philippines, Supercat, Skygo Motorcycles, Trans-Asia, Accu and Molten.

The 29ers of Malvar Mayor Tita Reyes, Rep. Oscar Gozes and businessman Bernie Maranan erected the game's biggest lead at 70-61 in the third, but Taguig used a full-court trap at the start of the fourth to turn the game around.

Gumatay and slotman Bernard de Guia combined for 17 of Taguig's last 28 points while limiting the 29ers to 15 in the final canto of the match which was marked by 11 ties and eight lead changes.

The 29ers' All-Star MVP Sonny Manucat, got into foul trouble early and was held down to 11 points by Taguig's tight defense.

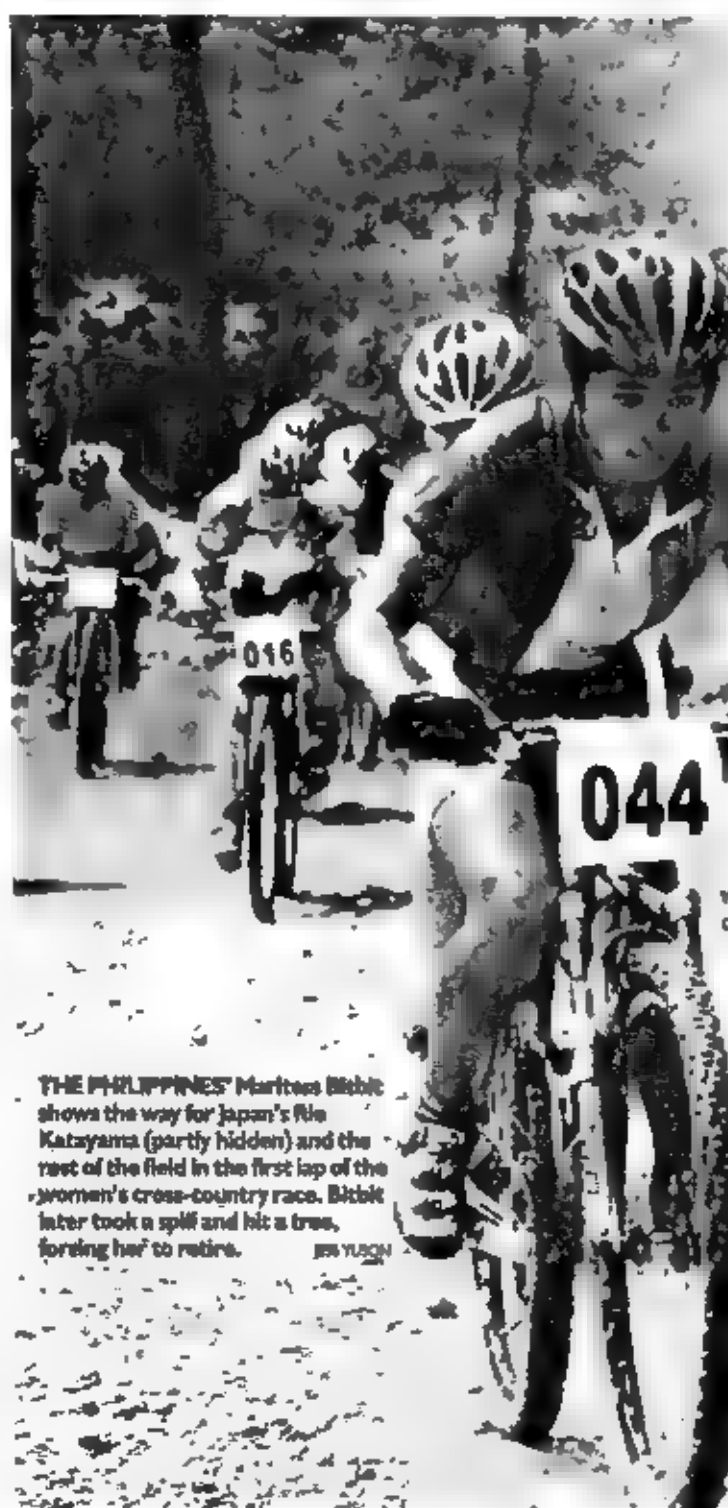
Taguig tries to wrap up the series at 6 p.m. today. And so does Ozamiz, which seeks its second straight win over Iloilo also at 6 p.m. today at the Gov. Medina gym in Ozamiz City.

The scores:

TAGUIG 77—Gumatay 17, De Guia 13, Robillon 11, Roldan 10, Ricafort 8, Reyes 7, Villar 5, Cruz 3, Alberto 2, Quimpo 0, Magallon 0.

BATANGAS 70—Manucat 11, De Castro 11, Mahari 11, Finitier 8, Saygo 6, Neo 7, Valera 4, Sta. Cruz 4, Rodriguez 3, Gonzales 2, Aguirre 1, Cuevas 0.

Quarters: 18-19, 34-31, 48-55, 77-70



THE PHILIPPINES' Marites Bibit shows the way for Japan's Rie Katayama (partly hidden) and the rest of the field in the first lap of the women's cross-country race. Bibit later took a spill and hit a tree, forcing her to retire. **BY YUCHI**

Japan sweeps 3 CC events; Surban 2nd

By Jane M. Navarro

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Japan swept the last three events of the 10th Asian Mountain Bike championship yesterday even as Nino Surban salvaged a silver medal for the Filipinos at the close of the two-day international event in sitio Magarwak in Barangay Lourdes here.

With superior skills and equipment, the Japanese finished with five golds out of six disputed by dominating the cross-country competitions through Kenji Takeya in the men's races, Rie Katayama in the women's class and Ken Onodera in the boys' division.

Surban's silver in the boys' division actually prevented a third 1-2 finish for the day by the Japanese, who had dominated the men's and women's downhill events also in 1-2 fashions Saturday.

Hong Kong's Ka Ho Liu broke through the Japanese juggernaut by ruling the boys' downhill on the first day.

Surban, a 16-year-old sophomore at Danao High School in Cebu, finished four minutes and 57 seconds behind Onodera, who won in 1:45:53. Stanley Jalip Jr. of Malaysia took the bronze in 1:53:00.

"I did everything possible to give the country a medal," said Surban in Filipino. Among others, he dedicated the only medal by the 11-man RP team to his late father, who died last February, and his girlfriend, Sandra Sandro.

Onodera cut loose after one and a half laps of the five-lap, 5.7-kilometer circuit,

leaving Surban and Jalip to dispute the silver in the event organized by Phileycling and sponsored by Air21, Kontrol Sunglasses, Philippine Airlines, Cargohaus, Dos-1, E-Konek, Mail&More, Agua de Laguna and the local government of Puerto Princesa City.

The three stars of the national team all failed to finish, with Marites Bibit injuring her hips after hitting a tree as she took a spill while leading the women's cross-country race.

Eusebio Quifones, the 2003 SEA Games cross-country gold medalist, and veteran Frederick Feliciano quit due to mechanical troubles midway through the six-lap, 5.7-km men's race.

"Kayang kaya sana (I could have won)," said a teary-eyed Bibit, who was ahead of Katayama by 40 seconds when she took a spill on a downhill stretch.

Katayama captured the gold in two hours, 13 minutes and 28 seconds over teammate Izumi Takahashi, who clocked 2:19:51. Porn-banchokkul Chundarat of Thailand took the bronze (2:26:21).

Takeya won the men's cross-country in 2:02:48, with Takanori Yamaguchi (2:04:22) getting the silver. Thailand's Masae Tawatchai (2:05:27) secured the bronze.

Barangay Ginebra bounces back

From page A25

"This is a big tournament for us that is why we are coming out thinking that we could win games."

Castillo finished with 17 points living up to the role of team leader assigned to him by Gregorio before the start of the year.

The Tigers dropped into a tie with Iloilo San Miguel at 1-1.

The Tigers actually led, 75-74, after a Poch Junio layup but they

couldn't exploit two crucial possessions which Jun Limpot threw away.

Purefoods then regained the lead on a 2-on-1 break which Castillo finished off, 77-76, with 24.8 left.

The scores:

PUREFOODS 76—Raymondo 22, Castillo 17, Limpot 15, Arnel 7, Yee 6, Yap 6, Hrabek 4, Simon 2, Realubit 0, Patrikionio 0, Demago 0.

GOCA-GOLA 70—Hatfield 17, Abanillas

15, Reyes 10, David 9, John 9, Hognatan 6, Walwright 4, Carlos 3, Morano 2, Lao 0, Antonio 0.

Quarters: 23-20; 36-44; 62-58; 78-76

Second Game

GINEBRA 88—Heberbrand 23, Santos 22, Cagklat 13, Adhucal 10, Dimasurahan 8, Manik 8, Salvacion 3, Galpita 3, Hobie 0.

STA. LUCIA 84—Espino 22, Duran 15, Mendoza 13, Francisco 12, Ornelan 8, Gonzales 6, Aquino 5, Santos 3, Guan 0, Ong 0.

Quarters: 31-15; 48-42; 68-65; 88-84

Pacquiao caught in an emergency

MANNY Pacquiao's scheduled fight against a colored opponent from out of nowhere comes in with sirens wailing, colored warning lights flashing.

The fight, both desperate and frantic, is an emergency.

It's being delivered on board a screaming ambulance.

Given enough time to find a worthy foe, Pacquiao should rightfully fight an opponent with credentials suiting the stature of the Pinoy world boxing celebrity.

Pacquiao, highly respected all over the world, had reason to feel insulted.

But, time is running out.

Shamed out of the stellar rich bouts in the USA, no thanks to his glib US promoter, Murad Muhammad, Pacquiao needs one tune-up match before the year ends.

Otherwise, he would be rendered rusty, loose and soft for his scheduled big outings next year, topped by the return match against double world champion Juan Manuel Marquez.

...

So it will be Gail St. Gary.

You can bet Pacquiao himself had never before heard of this boxer, described as a tough one from Guyana.

St. Gary is being peddled as a survivor who holds the unenviable record of having lost (merely) on points against name boxers, like Diego Corrales and Leonard Dorn.

This simply means Pacquiao has nothing to gain from his scheduled fight, except hopefully a good, full-blown workout.

In fact, Freddie Roach took a sharp dig at promoter Murad when the famous American trainer wondered why a hot, top-rated boxer like Pacquiao could not get a good fight.

Well, the best that Pacquiao could aim for against the survivor from Guyana is to stop him cold.

For lack of someone better to showcase his great talent, Pacquiao and his home fans should be happy enough with the sinking of an unshakable foe.

...

If there's anybody who should truly profit from the St. Gary fight, it's not Pacquiao but promoter Murad.

Murad may yet save his contract with Pacquiao, due to expire in February, if the emergency fight pushes through.

Then there is the local group that's assembling the fight here.

A full-blast publicity offensive last week announced blithely the bout was a "done deal."

Named as venue was the Global City in Taguig.

Taguig Mayor Freddie Tinga was supposed to have vowed his full support for the promotion.

Anyway, publicists have vowed to name the big people behind the fight this week.

Why they had refused to be identified at the time of the fight announcement simply makes the event both suspenseful and mysterious.

...

But listen now. The bigger question now is how to safely finance the gigantic

BARE EYE



Recab Trinidad

card.

With his iconic worth, Pacquiao, the press release announced, has been assured of a \$500,000 purse.

That whopping sum, translated in pesos, would itself need an emergency in order to raise.

Then, counting other necessary expenses, it would not be silly to estimate total expenditures at over P70 million.

A plain accounting of possible revenues would show that promoters would need to call in someone with the godly touch of King Midas to help assemble the Pacquiao fight in Manila.

The main area of revenue, of course, is television.

But great as Pacquiao is, it's hard to imagine how to raise his purse alone from television advertising revenues.

Considering the hard times and the late timing, promoters would be extremely lucky to assemble commercials totaling P20 million.

...

So whom are they turning to for funding of the very expensive boxing show?

He may not have heard of St. Gary himself but, sad to say, it was the name of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo that was freely floated when the question of funding was raised.

Credit this to Mr. Arroyo's tested generosity, mainly when it comes to sporting matters.

Well, Murad Muhammad and his local counterparts may have other moneyed backers behind them.

But if ever Manacang steps in to help, it could also be out of necessity.

In these hard times, an extravaganza, a circus in the magnitude of a Pacquiao fight close to Christmas, should help momentarily take the minds of the countless poor and hungry from their mounting miseries.

Like it or not, the Pacquiao fight should count as a Palace shot at the empty Pinoy breadbasket.

...

(UPDATE: A little correction, please 1 typed 15 percent, not (on.y) 5 percent as inadvertently printed in my last column that partly dealt on the growing percentage of the very hungry among our citizenry. A check with the rundown laptop bore me out: there's, indeed, a sickening soar in the number of the foodless in the country... Jazz specialist Richard Merk is sponsoring "Kita lita tayo para kay Kita-a song for Paquito Diaz" at Merks Bar Bistro, Monday, Nov. 8, Greenbelt (Makati) Level 3. Diaz, an actor and friend to many, suffered a stroke and has been confined at the Medical City (ICU). Call Merks 7574720 for reservations.)

United Auctioneers, Inc.

TRUCKS, VANS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

3 DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

INSPECTION & REGISTRATION START ON SUNDAY OCT. 17, 2004

OCTOBER 21, 22, & 23, 2004

(THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY)

Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!

Catch The Best At

SUBIC BAY

INSPECTION DATES: OCTOBER 17, 18, 19 & 20, 2004

(SUNDAY TO WEDNESDAY)

REGISTRATION DATES: OCTOBER 17 TO 23, 2004

(SUNDAY TO SATURDAY)

20 BUILDERS

10 GRADERS

10 PAYLOADERS

10 EXCAVATORS

10 TRUCKS

10 VANS

10 GARAGE TRUCKS

10 MIXER TRUCKS

10 REFRIGERATED VANS

10 GARBAGE TRUCKS

10 CANTER MANLIFT TRUCKS

10 BUSES

10 TRUCKS

10 VANS

10 GARAGE TRUCKS

10 MIXER TRUCKS

10 REFRIGERATED VANS

10 GARBAGE TRUCKS

10 CANTER MANLIFT TRUCKS

10 BUSES

10 TRUCKS

10 VANS

10 GARAGE TRUCKS

ALSO AVAILABLE: LOCALLY ACQUIRED VEHICLE

10 TRUCKS

10 VANS

10 GARAGE TRUCKS

10 MIXER TRUCKS

10 REFRIGERATED VANS

10 GARBAGE TRUCKS

10 CANTER MANLIFT TRUCKS

10 BUSES

10 TRUCKS

10 VANS

10 GARAGE TRUCKS

10 MIXER TRUCKS

10 REFRIGERATED VANS

10 GARBAGE TRUCKS

SUBIC BAY, 1200 BROADWAY HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT PHILIPPINES TEL NO: (0471) 252-1129 • 252-1188 to 60 FAX NO: (0471) 252-5500

MANILA TEL NO: (021) 8297866 • 8297867 • 426-3908 • 453-7478 • TEL NO: 8817888824

FAX NO: (021) 829-8200 E-MAIL: info@auctioneers.com WEBSITE: www.auctioneers.com

DAYS TO GO

BRING ON THE RED SOX

Yankees finish off Twins

MINNEAPOLIS—A big home run by Ruben Sierra, a clutch 11th-inning hit by Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees are headed right back where most people figured—playing the Boston Red Sox for the American League pennant.

"This is what everybody drew up in spring training and now everybody gets to see what it's all about," Yankees star Gary Sheffield said. "When Schilling went to the Red Sox and when A-Rod came here, that's what everybody wanted to see."

Sierra's three-run homer in the eighth inning tied it. Rodriguez doubled, neatly stole third base and scored the go-ahead run on a wild pitch by Kyle Lohse to lift the

Yankees over the Minnesota Twins, 6-5, on Saturday.

"What makes you a complete player and a winning player is being asked to do the little things," Rodriguez said. "You can't play big ball all the time."

With this 3-1 win in the first-round playoff series, New York returned to Yankee Stadium—where the AL championship series opens Tuesday. Curt Schilling is likely to start for the Red Sox against Mike Mussina, both on ample rest.

The Twins led 5-1 behind ace Johan Santana before another New York rally. The Yankees came from behind for all three wins in this series after setting a major league record with 61 comeback victories during the regular season. Nine of those were from deficits of four runs or

For the second straight year, New York handed Minnesota a first-round playoff elimination in four games and advanced to the AL championship series to face Boston.

The Yankees won that matchup with Red Sox last October on Aaron Boone's homer in the 11th inning of Game 7. Boston was 11-9 against the Yankees this year.

Winning pitcher Mariano Rivera, who blew a rare postseason save chance in the eighth inning of Game 2, retired all six batters he faced to finish a stifling performance by the Yankees bullpen. After Javier Vazquez allowed five runs in five innings, Ericson Louisa and Tom Gordon each threw two scoreless innings.

Lohse pitched a perfect 10th and started the 11th by handling Derek Jeter his fourth strikeout of the afternoon, but Rodriguez

laced a double down the left-field line and stole third base on unsuspecting catcher Pat Borders—who didn't throw.

Then Lohse bounced a pitch to Sheffield that skipped past Borders, allowing Rodriguez to race home with the winning run.

That wild pitch silenced the Metrodome, where fans thought their AL Central champions would do better this year against the AL East winners. The Twins were on the verge of a two games-to-none lead Wednesday night when closer Joe Nathan failed to hold a one-run lead in the 12th inning.

The three-time champion Twins missed several chances to score in this game and head into another winter unsure how many players they'll be able to afford next year.

AP



BRANDON Backs of the Houston Astros pitches against Andrew Jones of the Atlanta Braves. The Astros won, 8-5, to take a 2-1 series lead.

Dodgers stay in hunt; Astros scuttle Braves

LOS ANGELES—Jose Lima pitched a complete game five-hitter and Shawn Green belted two home runs to lift the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 4-0 win over the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League playoffs Saturday.

The Cardinals now lead the best-of-five contest 2-1, with game four back at Dodger Stadium Sunday.

Elsewhere, the Houston Astros beat the Atlanta Braves, 8-5, to take a 2-1 advantage in their series.

Lima had four strikeouts and one walk in a dominant performance to keep the Dodgers alive in the series and earn Los Angeles its first post-season victory since winning the 1988 World Series.

It was his first complete game in more than three years.

Green clubbed solo homers in the fourth and sixth innings and had three hits. Steve Finley opened the scoring with a two-run single in the third.

Tony Womack and Jlen Edmonds had two hits apiece for the Cardinals, who could not generate any offense against Lima after piling up 16 runs in the first two games of the series at home.

Matt Morris was the loser for the Cards, going seven innings. He allowed four runs on six hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

In Houston, Brandon Backe, a little-known local, brought the Astros to within one game

of the franchise's first post-season series triumph.

Backe, a former outfielder who began pitching three years ago, gave up two runs against the Braves and struck out five batters in six innings while Morgan Ensberg drove in three runs on two clutch hits.

The Astros jumped into a 2-0 lead on a Carlos Beltran home run in the third, only to see the Braves tie it the next inning on a Johnny Estrada solo homer and an RBI single by Paul Byrd.

Byrd was called from the bullpen in the first frame when Braves starter John Thomson departed with a strained abdominal muscle after four pitches.

Byrd yielded four runs in 4 1/3 innings, including two in the fifth when Jeff Kent and Ensberg each had an RBI hit.

Ensberg helped secure victory in the sixth with a two-out, two-run double that extended Houston's lead to 7-2.

Andrew Jones pounded a late three-run homer to tighten the game but Brad Lidge set down the final three Atlanta hitters for the save.

Houston manager Phil Garner knows all the stats, and usually goes with the trends: except when putting together his batting order.

Traditionally, hitters with better on-base percentages hit ahead of those with better slugging numbers. Reuters

Boston feels little pressure vs NY

HOUSTON—Feel pressure? Not this wild bunch of Boston Red Sox who bear the heavy burden of trying to end the team's 85-year championship drought.

Certainly, one of them will make a critical error at the wrong time or uncork a wild pitch with the score tied and the bases loaded.

Won't the pressure finally crush them after they swept the AL division series Friday with an 8-6 win over Anaheim?

"I can't see that," manager Terry Francona said Saturday.

"Yesterday, when I walked into the food room, I had a good feeling," Francona said.

"Most teams—this is the truth

—most teams are watching 'Hoosiers.' I walk in the food room and there's John Belushi smashing a guitar over somebody's head in 'Animal House.'"

Hey, at least the players weren't throwing the food.

"They're right where they need to be," Francona said of their mental state as they prepare for the AL championship series.

The Red Sox take on their fierce rivals, the New York Yankees, after the latter dismissed the Minnesota Twins Saturday.

"This is what everybody drew up in spring training and now everybody gets to see what it's all about," Yankees star Gary Sheffield said.



SCHUMACHER

Schumacher powers way to 6th J

SUZUKA, Japan—Michael Schumacher won his first race since August and 13th of the season Sunday by claiming his sixth Japanese Grand Prix.

After having his troubles, including a 12th at the Chinese Grand Prix for his worst finish in a race since 1999, the seven-time world champion returned to his dominant form.

He feels he has nothing to prove.

"I didn't think too much about what happened at the last Grand Prix. I don't really take that into account, questioning anything," Schumacher said. "There wasn't really the extra pressure."

He won 12 of the first 13 races with Ferrari, then failed to win the previous three, before gaining his 83rd career victory Sunday.

Schumacher was ahead of brother Ralf

in a Williams-BMW at the end of the 5.807-kilometer (3.609-mile) circuit. BAR-Honda had Ralf and Jenson Button in third and fourth, while second in the team standings do Alonso of Renault was fifth.

It was Michael Schumacher's sixth at the Japanese GP in his sixth at the Japanese GP since he won every Japanese GP since

US rules swim meet; Australia sets record

INDIANAPOLIS—The United States piled up four more victories at the World Short Course Championships on Saturday night, although the American women lost a thrilling medley relay final to Australia's world record-setting team.

The Americans won four of 10 finals on the meet's third night, giving them 14 victories in 23 events so far.

Jenny Thompson defeated a strong field in the final meter of her career to win the 50-meter butterfly, then put the United States in front during the fly leg of the 400 medley relay. But Kara Lynn Joyce couldn't hold the lead against Aussie anchor Lisbeth Lenton, whose 100 freestyle split of 52.05 was the fastest in history.

"I guess it took them a world record to beat us," Thompson said. "It was a great fight and we knew it was going to be."

Aussies Sophie Edington, Brooke Hanson, Jessica Schipper and Lenton won in 3 minutes, 54.95 seconds, lowering Sweden's old mark of 3:55.78 set in 2002. It was the meet's first world record in the 25-meter temporary pool. Sweden was third.

Backstrokeer Haley Cope gave the Americans the early lead. Tara Kirk

dropped to second behind Hanson on the breaststroke portion before Thompson put the Americans back in front by 54-hundredths of a second during the fly. Lenton came off the final turn stronger than Joyce.

"It was really nice to get a victory on their home soil, but we're not going to rub it in because they might get us the next time," Lenton said. "It was neck and neck with everyone coming down to me. I just came out, concentrated on my race plan and it came down to the last turn."

Kardin Sandeno won her fourth gold medal of the meet and Brendan Hansen completed a sweep of the breaststroke events by winning the 200 for the Americans, who are without injured star Michael Phelps. He withdrew Friday with a back injury after winning the 200 freestyle.

"If it's in your own pool, you're not going to make a fool of yourself," said Mark Foster of Britain, who won the 50 free at age 34.

Spurring on the home team was a crowd of 11,488—largest at a non-Olympic swimming event in the United States.

"When they announce USA and everyone goes ballistic, it's absolutely incredible," said Margaret Hoelzer, who won the 200 backstroke.

AP



GERMAN Formula One driver Michael Schumacher of Ferrari (right) and Jenson Button I-2 in the Japanese Formula One Grand Prix in Suzuka.

Levi eyes second straight

SPRING, Texas—Wayne Levi shot a 5-under 67 Saturday to take a two-shot lead over D.A. Weibring after two rounds of the Administrators Small Business Classic.

Levi, coming off a victory at the Constellation Energy Classic and bidding for consecutive wins for the first time in his career, moved to 13-under 131 at Augusta Pines Golf Club. Weibring carded a 7-under 65 to get to 133.

Hale Irvin (68) is another two shots back at 135.

Walter Hall, who shared a two-shot lead

with Levi after an opening 64, had round 72 and dropped five strokes to 14 under, but lost a stroke at 18 to 15.

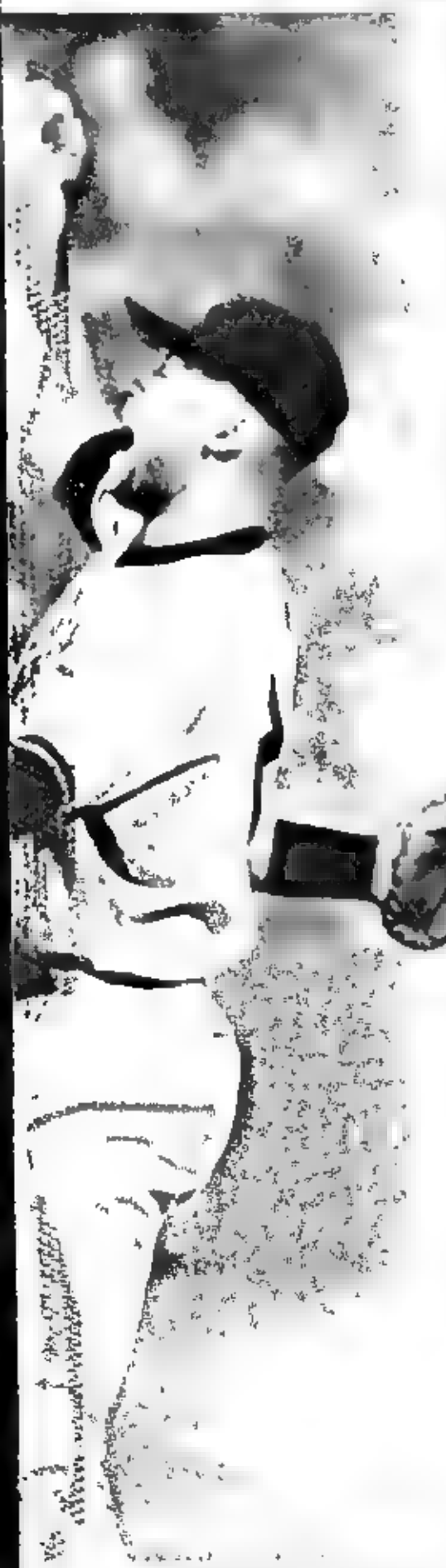
Levi surged to the lead quickly in the second round, making birdies on four of five holes. He added a birdie at No. 14 to 14 under, but lost a stroke at 18 to 15.

Weibring extended his streak of par or better to 20. A transplant Weibring was loose throughout



BRENDAN Hansen of the United States breathes in between strokes in the men's 200-meter breaststroke at the World Short Course Championships in Indianapolis.

REUTERS



Sharapova lights Asian love affair

TOKYO—Asia has fallen in love with Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova—and the feeling is mutual.

The 17-year-old Russian starlet left here Sunday with two more WTA titles safely packed away in her luggage after a successful three-leg swing through the Far East which won her a new legion of admirers.

The last of her victories was a 6-0, 6-1 destruction of American Mashona Washington in the Japan Open final which attracted 9,288 spectators despite a howling typhoon which battered the region.

It followed her victory in the Inaugural Korea Open a week earlier, a win watched by around 8,000 spectators, an unusually large audience for tennis in South Korea.

The only blemish was Sharapova's defeat to US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova in the China Open semifinals two weeks ago, but it has not dampened her fondness for playing in Asia.

"I want to come back," said Sharapova when asked about her Asian tour. "I just, for some reasons, I don't know why, play well and feel really good here, and fans are amazing." That's the reason why I want to come back and always see them again and try to play my best, so I definitely want to come back."

Despite the Japan Open women's tournament being a substantially poorer event in terms of prize-money than its men's counterpart, all the attention last week was focused on Sharapova.

Men's finalist Taylor Dent said he was bothered by being overshadowed by Sharapova and the women's event.

"I think the women are great assets to men's tennis and tennis in general. I

think the more attention they create the more events we will have, so it's vice versa," said the American.

"So if they are getting attention, it's great for us, it's great just to be a part of that. Hopefully, the matches are up to everybody's expectations, and we provide good entertainment."

Sharapova captured her first career WTA singles and doubles titles a year ago here, and also won her first professional title in the ITF Circuit series in Gutma, north of Tokyo, two years ago.

The only disappointment for Sharapova in Tokyo was that her name was not carved on the winner's trophy.

"By the way, they haven't updated this trophy, there's not my name on it, the last person is 2001, which is (Monica) Seles. We are in the 21st century. Come on three years behind," complained Sharapova.



SHARAPOVA: Asian sweetheart

Lehman nears first crown in four years

LAS VEGAS, Nevada—Tom Lehman is poised to grab his first victory in four years after claiming a one-shot lead following the third round of the \$4 million Las Vegas Invitational on Saturday.

The 45-year-old American, who has not won since the 2000 Phoenix Open, fired a six-under-par 66 at Deer's Bend, one of three courses being used here this week, for a 17-under total of

196.

Former British Open champion Lehman has only one top-10 finish to his credit this year, a tie for fourth place at last month's Canadian Open.

Dicky Pride (66) and Australia's Andre Stolz (65) shared second position on 199.

Overnight leader J.L. Lewis fell back into a tie for fourth on 200 after a one-under 70 at the TPC at The Canyons course. He was joined on

that mark by Australia's Greg Chalmers, Bob Estes, Olin Browne, Tim Petrovic, Duffy Wukowich and Harrison Frazar.

A total of 17 players were within four shots of Lehman at the end of the round.

Lehman, one of the back-nine starters, birdied two of his first three holes. He bogeyed the 14th before bouncing back with a birdie hat-trick from the 15th.

Neumann paces Asahi tilt

NORTH AUGUSTA, South Carolina—Liselotte Neumann moved closer to her first LPGA Tour victory in six years, firing a 69 Saturday for a one-shot lead at the LPGA Asahi Ryokuden International Championship.

Neumann, the 1988 US Women's Open champion, won the most recent of her 12 LPGA titles in 1998, a time when she was fifth on the money list and a regular near the top of leaderboards. Her game has steadily fallen since then, and she entered the LPGA's final full-field event of the year in 83rd place on the money list.

Even her on-field's best at Moama Vintage Plantation wrongly spelled her name as "Neumann."

But the 38-year-old Swede, who had been tied for the second-round lead with Donna Andrews and Becky Morgan, took another big step toward regaining her elite status.

At 11-under 205, Neumann was a snake ahead of Morgan (70) and three in from of Sophie Gustafson (66), Grace Park (68), Laura Davies (70) and Cristie Kerr (70).

Neumann has won four of the past five tournaments she's led entering the final round.

"That's a pretty good stat," she said, grinning. "The odds are pretty good."

Especially with Neumann back on her game.

She had birdies on two of her first three holes, including a tap-in on the par-3 third when her tee shot finished 3 feet from the cup. Neumann took the lead outright when Andrews mislaid a tricky downhill chip on the fourth for bogey.

Neumann added birdies on the 10th and 12th holes to extend her lead.

Her only slip-up was on the par-3 15th when her tee shot landed next to a tree. She had to chip backwards away from the fringe, then hit up within 5 feet and make the bogey putt.

Neumann scrambled at the end, saving par with a 7-footer on the 17th and a 3-footer on the 18th.

Although she hadn't held a lead in an LPGA event since the Nabisco Championships in 2002, Neumann felt peaceful when play began here. AP

CARRYBOY
World Class Auto Accessories

NEW LIFT-1 Canopy

- Comes with New Reverse Mirror
- Pushing ALL GLASS 1st and 2nd windows
- 4 pin rear trailer brake
- Rear Glass Defogger
- Comes with New CB Coiler using new tech "thermal spring system"
- New Tailgate Damper
- 4 Keys

WAGAN-BOV Heavy Duty Lock
C-B-3-BL

3-LOCK
77,000 • 12,000

A SMART MECHANICAL SOLUTION AGAINST CARJACKING

SPECIFY CARRYBOY BRAND
14 Barrows cor Macopa Bldg. Q.C. Near Retro St. & National Orthopedic Hospital, going to: Monte Ave., Q.C. Dist. 7400-525 • 7400-530 • 7323-108
e-mail: k.k.asaka@nccadlife.net.ph • website: www.carryboyphil.com

OPEN FOR DEALERSHIP NATIONWIDE

Japan triumph

53 laps of Suzuka and Taka-no-oka. Permat-

first victo-

gust, and

erru has

999, with

Ryder Cup stars crowd leaderboard

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland—Luke Donald shot a 4-under-par 68 Saturday at Carnoustie for a three-day total of 17-under 199, leaving him two strokes ahead of three others in the Dunhill Links Championship.

Ryder Cup teammates Ian Poulter and David Howell were on 201. Poulter carded his excellent 65 at Carnoustie, the most difficult of the three courses being played. Howell, the overnight leader, shot a 71 at Carnoustie.

They were joined by Graeme McDowell. The Northern Irishman, who shot a record-equalling 10-under 62 on The Old Course on Thursday, followed it with a 72 Friday at Carnoustie and a 5-under 67 Saturday at Kingsbarns.

The final round Sunday was set for the Old Course.

Stephen Gallacher of Scotland was three strokes off the lead after a 66 Saturday at the Old Course. Four other, including Ernie Els, were a further two shots behind. Els shot 68 Saturday at Carnoustie.

World No. 1 Vijay Singh had a 69 Saturday at Carnoustie, leaving him eight shots off the lead.

Among the casualties of the 212 halfway cut were Padraig Harrington and Thomas Bjorn.

Donald's 68 was his highest score off the week, but it came at the most difficult layout.

"It (Carnoustie) is tougher off the tee, and you have to think about every shot. You really have to thread it through the bunkers."

The Englishman said he was surprised how well he had played the links courses.

"I changed my game when I went to the States, trying to hit softer shots higher and further. That is obviously not the way to play links golf."

"But I still remember how to play links golf, how to play the bump and run shots and the shot under the wind. I played a lot of links golf growing up," Donald added.

Poulter began with a bogey when he missed the green from 99 yards trying to play a high shot.

Howell said he had not swung the club as well for his 71 after 65s in the first two rounds earned him the halfway lead.

"And I made a couple of mental errors. But I'm confident of playing well tomorrow," he said.

Els said his driving was good but he was not putting well enough. Among his misses was a 3-footer for birdie at the short 13th.

Senior victory

second-

off the

67), Jim

Jun Dent

the sec-

his first

13 to get

with his

rounds of

Texan,

second

round, getting updates on the progress of the Texas-Oklahoma football game and the Astros and Braves playoff game from scorekeepers.

Weibring had three birdies and an eagle on his first four holes to move into contention for his second title of the year. He won the Allianz Championship in May and has 14 top-10 finishes this season.

He tied for sixth at last week's Constellation Energy Classic and hasn't had an over-par round since a 73 in the first round of the Greater Hickory Classic on Aug. 20.

GUYITO WILD HUNT

REWARDS

The wild chase is on for inquirer's Guyito!

Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of inquirer. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

Join the fun as inquirer celebrates 19 exciting years of giving Filipinos no less than balanced news and fearless views.

HUNT from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

See posters and print ads for more details.

All products are available at Digital Exchange Glorietta 3

PBL expansion team has ace known as Baby Shaq

NEWCOMER Granny Goose Tortillas of General Milling Corp. (GMC) expects rough sailing in the Philippine Basketball League Open championship which starts on Oct. 23.

But the Cebu-based squad is no patay and is out to bring its winning legacy to the Big City.

The team has the youthful exuberance, talent and never-say-die attitude Cebuano squads are noted for and that make them dangerous and a prospective crowd-drawer.

GMC is one of the founding members

of the Cebu Basketball Federation (CBF) and its team, the General Feedmasters, have already won several titles in Visayas and Mindanao.

Even without seasoned players, the GMC management, led by executive director Kirk Steven Young, is convinced the team can achieve its modest goal in its maiden campaign.

Team manager Pat Aquino said Granny Goose will be bannered by University of Visayas star Ronald Joseph Quinahan, currently the hottest player in the South. A dead ringer for NBA mega-

star Shaquille O'Neal, the 6-foot-5 Quinahan is even called "Baby Shaq."

Calling the shots for the team is former national hotshot Jun Tan, who is excited to return to the league that has made him one of the Cebuano idols in the '80s.

Quinahan will be backstopped by seven University of the Philippines players, among them Abby Santos, Toti Almada, Jireh Ybanez and Nestor David.

Also in the roster are Rex Mangubat, Alfie Grijaldo, Chico Lanete, Ardy Larong, Jett Latonio, Dennis Cocha, Mar-

vin Cruz and Joseph Cervantes.

The team is also hoping to sign up Ronald Capati and Jam Aufad to boost its frontline rotation.

"Definitely we don't have star players in the team but we will do our best every game since this is our maiden campaign. We have to play hard and challenge ourselves always," said Aquino, who also acknowledged the all-out support given by basketball operations manager Albert Tan and Pico Gonzales of UB.

To prepare mentally and physically for the tough battle ahead, Granny Goose

will hold a 10-day team bonding in Cebu along with the UP players starting this week.

GMC officials said their entry in the league is already a major victory, saying they have long been waiting for the right opportunity to expand the company's participation in sports activities all over the country.

"The tie-up with the PBL beginning with the Open Championship gives GMC an effective and popular venue for promoting amateur basketball," Ric M. Pinca, GMC's director for corporate affairs, said.



FLIPINIA IS FASTEST

Mercedita Manopol (left) checks her watch as she breasts the tape in ruling the adidas Queens of the Road race in Seoul, South Korea, yesterday. The University of the East track team standout clocked a course-record 35 minutes and 45 seconds in besting runners from Hong Kong, Korea, Malaysia and Thailand. Inset, Manopol, holding her Golden Boot trophy, with adidas Korea managing director Wolfgang Beinhorn.

WNCAA CAGING

Lyceum gains finals

ALL BUT two twice-to-beat squads barged into the finals Saturday after finishing off their respective foes at the start of the basketball and volleyball semifinals of the WNCAA's 35th season.

Lyceum sent its seniors teams to the basketball and volleyball championships, after disposing off Rizal Technological University, 56-37, at the St. Scholastica gym and newcomer University of Asia and the Pacific, 25-11, 25-17, 25-12, at

the CSB gym.

Minam College and RTU labored through four sets before setting up a finals duel in juniors volleyball.

Minam stopped La Salle College Antipolo, 25-23, 25-16, 14-25, 25-22, while RTU defeated SB-CA, 25-19, 15-25, 25-22, 25-21.

Host San Beda College Alabang and St. Scholastica will dispute the midgets crown.

SBCA downed De La Salle Zobel, 25-13, 22-25, 25-19, followed by St. Scholastica's 25-12, 25-20

mastery of Miriam.

Forcing playoffs are Centro Escolar University, which edged defending champion and No. 2 team College of St. Benilde, 66-61, and No. 3 team RTU besting No. 2 University of the Assumption-Pan-puna, 17-25, 25-23, 25-19, 25-17.

The league's 35th season is co-presented by Kotex and sponsored by adidas, the Philippine Star, RPN 9, Monster Radio RX 93.1, Panipine Café, Lape, in cooperation with Cadbury, Goldilocks, Powerade, Molten, Mikasa and Centrum.

Sertan, Sarabia bag PBC Open titles

UNIVERSITY of the East's Rodil Sertan downed schoolmate Herdberg Dimaricut, 15-8, 15-13, to win the men's singles title in the Del Monte 202 Cup First Philippine Badminton Collegiate Open at the SM Megamall Atrium recently.

The ladies' singles title went to

Far Eastern University's Criselda Sarabia, who scored an 11-2, 11-3 victory over De La Salle's Michele Guerrero.

In the men's doubles, De La Salle's Michael Pacilbar and Rhaui Angeles downed UE's RJ Cruz and Edison Cupcupin, 15-7, 15-9.

Pacilbar teamed up with Paula Chan to capture the mixed doubles championship over UE's Cupcupin and Jane de Jesus, 15-5, 15-6, while Paula and twin sister Therine bagged the girls' doubles title over FEL's Sarabia and Ma. Theresa Sebastian, 15-9, 15-9.

Champions received trophies, P25,000 cash and Sony Ericsson T230 mobile phones. The runners-up got P15,000 cash and P1,000 gift certificate from Advance Speed and Academic Professionals while the third placers received P8,000 cash plus trophies.

Letran remembers a forgotten sports leader

IT'S A PITY, but the contribution of former President Manuel L. Quezon to Philippine sports has remained largely forgotten, much less publicly honored, except by a few who still remember his lasting legacy.

I don't mean to offend, but Filipino sports officials, including those from the Philippine Olympic Committee, have not given much credit and recognition to Quezon, the first Filipino to become president of the defunct Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation, forerunner of the POC. The diminutive MLQ headed the PAAR from 1916 until 1935.

Quezon was not an athlete in the strict definition of the term, but he played an important role in Philippine sports as he fully appreciated the value of sports to the physical development of his countrymen. As president, he did not only promote sports in the country, he also promoted the idea of competing in international sporting events. Quezon was not only a man of his nation but of the world.

During his term, the Philippines debuted in the Olympics, sending sprinter David Nepomuceno to the Paris Games of 1924. Likewise, it was during Quezon's term that the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex was built. When it was completed in 1936, the complex was the most modern in Asia then.

A true blue sports fan, Quezon regularly attended NCAA basketball matches at the Rizal Coliseum where he rooted for Letran, his alma mater, while his children, Baby, Nim and Nonong, cheered for La Salle.

This Saturday afternoon, Oct. 16, Letran will honor former Letran athletes and sports leaders, including Quezon and the others who contributed to sports development like POC president Ceiso Dayrit, whose father, Francisco Dayrit, was a fencing instructor at Letran; former POC president Col. Julian Malonzo (ret.),

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Inigo

businessman-civic leader Eugenio "Gene" Puyat, who was the boxing association head when Anthony Villanueva won a silver medal in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, and Col. Salvador Andrada (tennis), Benjamin Ramos (rowing), and Dr. Anthony Nicanor Jr. of the Philippine Sports Commission. The ceremony starts at 2 p.m. Deceased athletes and honorees will be represented by their nearest kin.

PATRIOTIC ACT, BUT PRACTICAL IT IS NOT. There is no question that the PBA's quest to qualify for the 2008 Beijing Olympic basketball competition is a good idea, but practical it is not. Although Philippine chances of qualifying for the next Olympics are better this time since host China gets an outright entry to the tournament proper (leaving the remaining Asian countries to dispute not one but two slots for the region), I still say the task ahead is tough. Why? Because Filipino players still have to beat the region's next best teams such as South Korea, Kazakhstan, Lebanon and, who knows, even Japan in the qualifiers. And, even granting that the Filipino cagers hurdle their qualifying-round assignments, their chances of winning in the next round, the Olympic proper, will be very, very slim. The Philippines last competed in Olympic basketball in 1972 in Munich.

In Olympic basketball, the PBA should accept the fact that tall players definitely have

the advantage over their shorter opponents, which places the Filipinos—who are not meant to be genetically tall—at a great disadvantage.

As I have said time and again, the Philippines' only chance to win that elusive Olympic gold medal will be in sports where height is not might, in sporting disciplines like boxing, taekwondo, archery, billiards, bowling and chess, if ever the last three events are included in the Olympic menu.

Basketball enjoyed tremendous following in the 1950s and 1960s when the Philippines was the perennial champion of the Asian Games and the ABC tournaments. The basketball mania started in 1954 when the national team led by Hall of Famers Carlos Loyzaga and Lauro Mumar won third place in the World Basketball Championship in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

However, the decline of Philippine basketball, specifically in the Asian, started during the late 1960s.

By the way, statistics showed that PBA crowd attendance suffered after every debacle in the Asian Games beginning in 1990 when the pro league first assumed the responsibility of representing the Philippines in the quadrennial meet. In my opinion, these embarrassing setbacks were the major reasons why Filipino fans have shied away from most of the PBA games. The fans want winners, not perennial losers.

(My family and I condole with a longtime friend, Gerry Corpus, the assistant sports editor of the Philippine Star, whose eldest son, 19-year-old Peter John, died recently after a vehicular accident. Our prayers, too, to Bong Pedraza of the Manila Times on the death of his father.

SPORTSWATCH

Ormoc event boosts sports tourism

ORMOC City plays host to a big gathering of mountain bikers, racers, cyclists, and other health and sport enthusiasts in the Terry Larrazabal Bike Festival slated Oct. 22-24. The weekend event is expected to advance the growth of sports tourism in the country. Tourism Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano has expressed enthusiasm over the bike festival. "This is very timely. We have just celebrated the National Tourism Week which espoused the importance of sports in the tourism industry for mutual understanding and social development. I hope this will also promote Ormoc City and its neighboring towns as key tourist destinations in the country," Durano said. The Terry Larrazabal Bike Festival will also provide a venue for the launching of the Philippine Off-Road Bicycling Association. For inquiries, call 0921-5869968 or e-mail tbf@pidtdsl.net, or log on to www.terrylarrazabalbikefest.com.

World Bike Festival kicks off Oct. 24

MORE than a thousand bikers are expected to join the first ever World Bike Festival slated Oct. 24 at the CCP grounds in Pasay City. Organized by API Events, the biking festival will be held in conjunction with the celebration of the United Nations' Day. The three-hour activity will start at 6 a.m. A program featuring TV and movie celebrities follows at 9 a.m. in the festival backed by Red Bull, Viva Minsal Water and Manila Bank. For sponsorship, registration and inquiries, call API Events at 7422587, 4932023, 0927-9169441, or e-mail api_events@yahoo.com.

Cockfight 'heavies' clash at LPC today

THE RIVALRY among cockfighting heavyweights heats up anew tonight as the Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines 5-Tag Derby kicks off with 51 fights at the air-conditioned Las Piñas Coliseum. The derby is sponsored by Sagupaan Complexor 3000 and Pagcor-Casino Filipino. The grand championship in this, the sixth of seven GCAP stagfests scheduled at LPC, will be held on Oct. 18, said coliseum manager Alex Tobias. Leading the Stagfighter race with 17.5 points apiece are popular cockfighter Patrick Antonio (Sagupaan Complexor 3000) and partners Ramon Manceneres and Tony Faustino (EDL Farms). Love U Papa of Benjie Lim has 15.5 markers, while Mulawin A of Farmer Rep. Rudy Albano, PEBR of Pol Estrellado and Boy Roy, and Agilahas of Mayor Ashley and Jenier Arayata have 14.5 points each. The Stagfighter winner and runner-up will receive P300,000 and P100,000, respectively. GCAP president Patrick Antonio said the Stagfighter's handler and gaffer will also get P70,000 and P30,000 in recognition of their efforts. For inquiries, call 8731040 and 8743910.

De la Cerna-Padao tops Minda derby

DAVAO CITY—The unholy partnership of Rufino "Nonoy" de la Cerna and William Padoa defied all odds to win the Mindanao Gamefowl Breeders Association's P3-million 7-Tag Derby held here recently. The duo's Kimora 249 entry made known its intentions by breezing through the eliminations last Oct. 2, beating Madang Gallers of Gauden Wee and two other entries from this city. In last Saturday's 4-tag finals, the loyal Thunderbird Power Feeds users' fleet of Sweater-Kelso and Sweater-Grey crosses out of broodstocks from Padoa's former boss, the late Mayor Joel Brilantes, overcame the challenges of Mindanao's cockfighting giants to emerge as sole winner. Kimora 249 lorded it over the entries Shirley of Carmen Mayor Roger Talino, CPB Farm of World Slasher champ Rep. Claude Bautista, Mabelo of Dr. Fernandez and Nelson Sala, and 2004 Candelaria derby hero Edwin Deles. Saying their roosters used Thunderbird Baby Stag Booster and Thunderbird Stag Developer, the duo first made their presence felt in Tagum City Cockpit last August when they swept all their four matches during the ATL Cup Stag Derby hosted by Chungkee Uy. Solo runner-up honors went to the entry Janis of Jun de Leon and Burt Austria, which scored 6.5 points. Among those who finished with 6 points were Majestic Predator of Peter Gotance and the Ampil Brothers, SF Blue Quartz of Baby Uy, PB MGCR of Dr. Gener Rubio, Kaayaya of Ruben Santos, Bida of Rudy Altamira, Amarda of Jun de Leon and Bert Austria, Alcon Fancy of Danny Layola, Roger of Mayor Roger Talino, and LG Farm of Marion Ondoy and Yoyong Go.



TELECOM TOPNOTCHERS: Members of the Globe Telecom/Innove badminton team, led by team captain Richard Muliganga (seventh from left, standing) savor the moment with National Telecommunications Commission commissioner Roland Olivar Solis (ninth from left) and Deputy Commissioner George Sarmiento (10th from left) after ruling the group eliminations and advancing to the quarterfinals of the 2nd Commissioner's Cup held recently at the Star Smash Badminton Center on Tinog Avenue, Quezon City. The other team members are Lance Martinez, Richard Zenasar, Meigar Olas, April Donato, Mae Zarrin, Luigi Reyes, Roy Villanueva, Nathaniel Siongco, Glenn Flores, Roselle Pascual and Mitch Villanueva.



CEREMONIAL TOSS: Energy Secretary Vincent Perez (center) makes the toss for the recent basketball exhibition game featuring the Shell Turbochargers and the Department of Energy "Dream Team" at Shell Linear Park in Pandacan, Manila. The game, held in cooperation with Pilipinas Shell, is part of the information and education campaign of the National Energy Conservation Program of the government. Getting ready for the toss are Elmer Malbog of the DOE team (left) and Shell's Jun Marian.

Kidd rejoins Nets' night practices to duck fines

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey—Jason Kidd is going to attend both day and night practices during the New Jersey Nets' training camp rather than pay fines he feels are misguided.

The All-Star point guard was fined by the Nets this week for missing practices at night.

While he didn't question the Nets' right to fine him, Kidd debated the wisdom of being there because he was undergoing rehabilitation on his surgically repaired left knee and was unable to practice.

"My rehab will last until 11 o'clock," said Kidd, who is undergoing rehabilitation seven days a

week. "A lot of people don't understand the stuff I'm doing to get back and play. So I'll be here tonight, and then I'll be here every day for practice until I have to go to rehab."

Under the collective bargaining agreement, players can be penalized \$2,500 for each of the first two practices they miss and \$5,000 for each subsequent absence.

"I don't mind donating, but only for a good cause," Kidd said on Sat-

urday. "And that's not a good cause. It's easier just to come to practice, hang out, help the guys out and go from there."

Kidd said he would not appeal the fines.

"It just makes my day longer, in the sense of going to rehab and coming back from rehab and going back to rehab again after the night practice," Kidd said.

Kidd and the Nets have been at odds in recent months with trades of All-Star forward Kenyon Martin to Denver and shooting guard Kerry Kittles to the Los Angeles Clippers in cost-saving moves.

New Jersey recently waived backup shooting guard Lucious Harris, one of the most well-liked players on the team.

When the Nets reported to training camp, Kidd said that he had not asked to be traded, but he dreamed of it.

"I don't have too many dreams right now because I'm so tired," Kidd said.

"Right now I'm trying to get healthy. I have nothing to do with being traded." AP



JASON Kidd shoots during practice in this file photo.

Malone visits Lakers, leaves options open

SAN DIEGO—Karl Malone showed up at the Los Angeles Lakers training camp to visit old teammates and club officials.

Malone's visit Saturday was purely social and had no bearing on whether he might play this season, team officials said.

"It's not a bad sign, but really it's not a sign either way," said Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak, adding the club would welcome Malone's presence on the court.

The 41-year-old Malone, the second-leading scorer in NBA history, underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right knee in late June. He opted out of his \$1.65-million contract with the Lakers at season's end, making him a free agent.

Malone has said he's not ready to play but hasn't ruled out returning this season.

"He's leaving his options open," Malone's agent, Dwight Marley, said last week.

Malone arrived as practice was winding

down, and chatted with his former teammates and shook hands. He declined to comment on his future plans.

"Talk to the guys who are doing something," Malone said. "I'm not doing anything."

Lakers coach Rudy Tomjanovich said he wouldn't try to persuade Malone to return.

"That would be something that would be grinding and grinding all the time. So for the mental health of the team right now, we're going as if it isn't going to happen," Tomjanovich said.

Kupchak said Malone appeared in good physical condition.

"He looks great," Kupchak said. "I've never seen him when he doesn't look great."

Forward Brian Grant, who missed practice for two days with a sore neck, returned in a closed team scrimmage Friday night. AP

Beckham sustains fracture

MANCHESTER, England—England skipper David Beckham suffered a hairline fracture to one of his ribs during England's 2-0 win over Wales at Old Trafford, X-rays revealed late on Saturday.

An FA spokesperson confirmed that a second set of X-rays revealed the extent of the injury after an earlier set appeared to give him the all-clear.

But it was not immediately clear how long the injury would sideline him for.

Beckham had an afternoon to remember back at Old Trafford where he spent more than a decade of his career with Manchester United.

He scored a spectacular goal after 76 minutes to secure England's victory, then got himself booked and suspended for their next qualifier in Baku against Azerbaijan on Wednesday.

After the match, England coach Sven-Goran

Eriksson praised Beckham for his goal rather than scolded him for a pointless yellow card which earned him his suspension.

Asked if he thought the booking irresponsible, Eriksson told a news conference: "No, I don't think so. Let's talk about the goal he scored instead, because that was an important goal."

"As long as it's 1-0, even if you create chances, you are never calm on the bench. Two to zero killed the game. We told the players at halftime we needed a second goal... and it came." Eriksson said that striker Michael Owen, who has deputized for Beckham in the past, would probably wear the skipper's armband on Wednesday.

Impressed by Owen's lively performance after a difficult start to his Real Madrid career, Eriksson said: "I don't know if he'll be credited with the first goal or not, but I think he played very well." Reuters

Argentina, Brazil crush foes in qualifiers for World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO—Argentina and Brazil scored crushing victories in Saturday's World Cup qualifiers, the former beating Uruguay, 4-2, in Buenos Aires and the world champions romping home, 5-2, in Venezuela.

Argentina, playing their first match under new coach Jose Pekerman, raced into a 4-0 lead after 54 minutes with a Luciano Figueroa double and a goal apiece from Luis Gonzalez and Javier Zanetti.

Cristian Rodriguez and Javier Chevanton, from a twice-taken penalty, made the scoreline respectable for Uruguay.

Two goals each from Kaka and Ronaldinho and one by Adriano, seven minutes after coming off the substitutes' bench, put Brazil 5-0 ahead in Maracaibo.

Rubert Moran then pulled two back, doubling Venezuela's tally of goals in their 16

meetings with Brazil, who have won them all. Venezuela could be in serious trouble after two fans went on to the field in the second half to hug Roberto Carlos and Ronaldo.

In other games, Colombia wasted a handful of chances as it was held to a 1-1 draw by Paraguay in Barranquilla while Bolivia stayed at the bottom of the group table despite beating Peru, 1-0, in a scrappy match in La Paz.

As the South American World Cup qualifying section reaches the halfway mark, Brazil leads with 19 points from nine games with Argentina one point behind. Both look certain to qualify for Germany 2006.

They are followed by Paraguay (15), Chile (12), Ecuador, Uruguay, Venezuela (10) and Colombia, Peru and Bolivia (9).

Ecuador and Chile complete the weekend's program in Quito on Sunday. Reuters

Gritty Novak bags Japan Open crown

TOKYO—Jiri Novak of the Czech Republic won the Japan Open tennis title with a 5-7, 6-1, 6-3 victory over American Taylor Dent at Ariake Coliseum on Sunday.

The fifth-seeded Novak, who beat Lleyton Hewitt in the semi-finals on Saturday, overcame the seventh seed with some ruthlessly efficient ground strokes.

It was the 29-year-old Novak's sixth ATP title and he earned \$118,000 for the win.

"I felt great the whole week," the world No. 28 said. "I beat Paradorn (Srthaphan) and (Lleyton) Hewitt, and Dent in the final, so I feel I was playing very well in Tokyo." Reuters

"This is my sixth title and I'm very excited about it."

After a sloppy first set in which there were five breaks of serve, the game settled down into a cat-and-mouse affair with the 23-year-old Dent trying to upset the rhythm of the Czech.

"I think we both started out a bit nervously, losing service games, but my confidence was high in the second and third sets and I think I was the better player on the court," said Novak.

Dent's willingness to attack the net, combined with Novak's only double fault of the match on set point, helped him to secure the first set. Reuters



JIRI Novak makes a backhand return to Taylor Dent in the final. Reuters



KARL Malone is open to anything, including a return to a Lakers uniform.

Davenport tops Porsche tournament

FILDERSTADT, Germany—Lindsay Davenport captured the Porsche Grand Prix Sunday and moved closer to the top ranking when Amelie Mauresmo retired from the final with a left thigh injury.

Davenport won the first set, 6-2, in a meeting between the world's No. 1 and No. 2, and Mauresmo then withdrew after her heavily taped thigh hampered her movement.

Davenport said she was disappointed at how she won her tour-high seventh title of the year and 45th of her career.

"It's just a bad feeling—there's not a whole lot of joy in winning like this," Davenport said. "We played maybe one tough game, the first game then her leg started bothering her."

Mauresmo said she got injured in the third game when Davenport broke her serve to move ahead 2-1. After the next game, she left the court to get her thigh taped and was unable to chase down the American's shots for the rest of the set.

"I am a little disappointed because I think we would have played a great match," Mauresmo said.

The American is now just 15 points behind Mauresmo in the WTA rankings, 4,395 to 4,380, and the top ranking could switch hands next week at the Kremlin Cup. AP

THE ANNIVERSARY BLOWOUT

ANG HINDI TUMAWAG, WALANG

30% SAVINGS!

direct link
CAR INSURANCE

MAKATI
88-725-88

CEBU
234-0808

Simpleng Kausap!

Valid for non-Direct Link and Non-UCIP Gen Policy Holders

SPORTS

Final SEAG Fed meeting under way

THE SOUTHEAST Asian Games Federation convenes for its final two-day meeting starting today at the New World Hotel in Makati City to finalize the number of sports and their respective events for the 23rd SEA Games the country will host next year.

Thirty-four sports have already been approved during the first federation meeting here last March, but seven other sports are still lobbying for inclusion despite the current financial crisis that had earlier threatened the holding of the bi-

ennial sportsfest here for the third time since 1981.

While the Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philsoc (Philippine SEA Games Organizing Committee) have the prerogative to propose the games' roster of sports, the SEAG Federation has the authority to decide on the final list of sports and events to be played.

"The SEA Games Federation understands the tight (financial) situation in the country and is willing to extend its cooperation in finding the right balance between the number of sports and the events to be played," said POC president Celso Dayrit,

who will preside over the meeting as head of the 11-nation federation.

Dayrit explained that while the federation may permit more sports to come in, the number of events must be maintained at a reasonable level to achieve cost efficiency in organizing the games.

The SEAG Sports and Rules Committee chaired by Rene Adad will meet this morning to discuss the final list of sports and events.

The committee's recommendations will be tackled this afternoon by the SEAG executive committee, which will submit its decision to the federation during its en banc meeting tomorrow.

Among the sports seeking last-minute sports in the already crowded program are weightlifting and lawn tennis, which are regular SEAG events.

The 1997 Jakarta Games is the biggest so far with 36 sports and 490 events. The 1999 Brunel Games owns the distinction of holding the least sports with only 22.

Following a resolution passed by the federation to maintain manageability of the games by reducing the number of events, the POC is expected to present only 375 events, as recommended by the national sports associations.

The inclusion of at least two more sports disciplines—lawn tennis and weightlifting—will also be discussed.

Also to be discussed is a proposal to move the original Nov. 20-30 schedule next year to Nov. 27-Dec. 5.

Meanwhile, Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buñan and Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit will make a presentation today declaring the SEAG a "smoke free" event during a luncheon the PSC will host for the delegates.

The country hopes to wrest the overall championship after coming close to pulling off the feat in 1991.

Nat'l chess team meet slated in Tagaytay Dec. 1-7

THE COUNTRY'S leading players converge in Tagaytay City again on Dec. 1-7 for the 2004 National Inter-Cities and Municipalities chess team championship.

The members of the national team to the World Chess Olympiad, including Grandmasters Eugene Torre and Joey Antonio and GM-elect Mark Paragua, will banner different teams in the event that stakes P100,000 for the champions.

National Chess Federation of the Philippines president Go Teng Kok said each team may field four regular players and one alternate, including two titled players.

The tournament is held in cooperation with the Department of Interior and Local Government and hosted by the city government of Tagaytay headed by Mayor Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino.

Cash prizes also include P60,000 for the runner-up team, P40,000 for the third placer.

For inquiries, call project director Willie Abalos at 0918-6523265. Marlon Bernardino, Contributor



JINKY Mariano (left) of Team OMBC Bids a serve while partner Tess Marcelo looks on during the opening game Saturday of the first Platinum Cup at West Drive badminton courts in Pasig City.

PLATINUM CUP

Players' Best not good enough for Valle Verde

VALLE Verde swept Players' Best in two games yesterday and gained the right to represent the East Area in the Battle of the Courts: National Inter-Club Platinum Cup at the West Drive Badminton Club in Pasig.

Valle Verde and Players' Best earlier advanced to the finals with similar 2-1 wins at the expense of Myan's and Badminton Gold, respectively.

Valle Verde's Cherry Go Tian and Elizabeth Ng outlasted Myan's Ivy Silva and Jane Aurelio, 15-11, 15-1, in the women's doubles.

Valle Verde then clinched its second win through former tennis standout Randy Villanueva and Jofer Velez, who overwhelmed John Rivera and Zed Pulido, 15-2, 15-6, in the men's doubles.

Lilibeth Pascual and Julie Kagalingan scored Players' Best first victory at the expense of Mariejoy Kawpeng and Chiquil Villanueva, 15-11, 15-9, in the women's doubles.

Israel Quimson and Louie Trinidad followed it up with a 15-12, 15-9 win over Allan Lavarro and Nino Caruncho in the men's doubles.

Assured of a victory, Valle Verde and Play-

er's Best waived their matches in the mixed doubles category of the event presented by Globe Platinum and INQUIRER BADMINTON.

"We did a lot of scouting and our team spirit carried us through. We vow to train harder in the national finals," said Players' Best team captain Jeremy Pampolina.

The grand finals is set on Nov. 20-21 at the Market Market at Fort Bon facio.

The overall champion will win a holiday trip to Bangkok, Thailand, with each member receiving 20,000 Mubuhay Miles credit from Philippine Airlines.

Other tournament and raffle prizes include phones from Globe Platinum, top-of-the-line items from Mizuno and premium sports watches from L. Timestudio.

The event's major sponsors are Philippine Airlines, Mizuno and L. Timestudio. Nestlé is the official drink sponsor, Gerflor Tarsflex the official mat sponsor and Gosen the official shuttlecock.

Standings
Group A: Valle Verde 5-0, Players Best 3-2, Hillcrest 3-2, West Drive 2-3, Feather Alley 2-3, Shuttle's Best 0-5
Group B: Badminton Gold 5-1, Myan's 5-1, Old Market, 4-2, Greenpark BC 3-3, Badminton Buddies 2-4, Shuttle's Best-RB 2-4.

Akiko, Barredo in Globe fora

TWO-TIME Olympian and television host Gillian Akiko Thomson will be the resource speaker in the Globe gemini School Trip Leadership Forum to be held at the St. Paul's College of Iloilo Sur in Iloilo City on Oct. 14.

Akiko also spoke in the Iligan and Naga legs of the 14-city campus tour organized by Globe gemini as its contribution in preparing the youth in their future role in nation-building.

Over at the Wesleyan University of the Philippines in Cabanatuan City, Commissioner Michael Barredo of the Philippine Sports Commission will be the resource speaker in a similar Leadership Forum tomorrow.

Barredo is also chair of the International



THOMSON

Blind Sports Association for Asia. Both Thomson and Barredo will share their experiences and struggles with students during the two fora. The activities also include a two-day hip hop, street dancing clinic conducted by the country's top-notch all-male dance group, the Manoeuvres, and a free concert with Luke Mejares and the Vekro Band.

GK GANG XIAN
Herbal Slimming Tea

Men are **VAIN** too.

Gang Xian herbal slimming tea for men can help you lose weight, improve your health, and boost your energy. It contains natural ingredients like Ginseng, Ginkgo, and other herbs that help in achieving the body of a man.

Kamander

A Revolutionary breakthrough in hair restoration is now available!

Image Associates proudly introduces a state of the art method of hair reconstruction direct from the United States, Veralex™

IMAGE ASSOCIATES
96 Herrera, Suite 114 Corner Valera Street
Sajada Village Makati

845-0879
www.imageenhancementgroup.com

The Veralex™ process using 100% human implanted hair, grafted with non-surgical infusion can be done in just two office visits. No donor area is required and coverage is unlimited.

Veralex™ is one of the most natural and undetectable process used today. It requires no surgery, no daily maintenance, no wash, and no tape. The result are astounding!

THUNDERBIRD

BABY STAG BOOSTER
Day old - 1 Month

Para sa tamang pundasyon.

Bigyan ang inyong mga alagang alag ng Thunderbird Baby Stag Booster:

- May nagpapalibay ng kanilang panunaw para madaling ma-absorb ng kanilang katawan ang pagkain.
- May nagpapalibay ng kanilang pagkain at nagpapalibay ng kanilang mga buto.
- May sangkap na mabisang panisban sa madugong ipot o Coccidiosis, isang sakit na nakamamatay sa mga alag.

Be ng Thunderbird Baby Stag Booster, alag ay lalakeng maelig, matibay at di sakitin!

Entertainment
Metro/A2

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

Edu: Yes,
Ai Ai and I
went out on a
date

By Marinel R. Cruz

ACTOR and Optical Media Board Chair Edu Manzano, who is said to be wooing Ai Ai de las Alas, admitted he went out with the comedian last week.

"But we were with Arnel Ignacio, who came to the ABS-CBN studio with Ai Ai, and my costars Aga (Muhlach) and Bayani (Agbayani)," Edu told *Inquirer* Entertainment in a telephone interview last week. "She had just finished her therapy that night when they arrived at the ABS-CBN studio. After my taping (for 'Okay Fine Whatever'), we went out to have some merienda."

Edu also explained why he did not answer his cell phone when Ai Ai called after a grenade was found in her Quezon City house on Oct. 1, a Friday.

"I was in a meeting at that time, and my cell phone was on silent mode," Edu told *Inquirer* Entertainment. "I was discussing with the members of OMB details of the raid we conducted last Sunday."

"When we had a break in the discussion, I immediately called Ai Ai," Edu added. "She said everything was okay and that she had already talked with Arnel about the grenade. I also sent people to her house that night."

Ai Ai earlier told *Inquirer* Entertainment she did not want to put Edu in a "bad spot" by reacting to write-ups about the two of them. But she admitted that Edu was the first person she called when she learned that a live grenade had been found in her house.

"Edu did not pick up the phone, so I called Arnel instead," Ai Ai had recounted. "I asked Arnel to help me contact a SWAT team to check out the grenade."

Edu and Ai Ai are co-hosts on the noon-time variety show "MTB: Ang Sayasaya."

Edu said Ai Ai's therapy is for an injury she suffered while playing badminton.

According to talk in show biz circles, Edu is courting Ai Ai. In an interview on "The Buzz" last Sunday, Ai Ai admitted she received a necklace from Edu.

Rumor also said Edu's ex-girlfriend, "Ear Bulaga!" host Alicia Meyer, was hospitalized after drinking tequila and sleeping pills because she got depressed over stories linking Edu to other women.

"I just talked with her last night and she never mentioned anything about that," Edu said of Alicia last Tuesday. "I'm going to call her right away."

Last Oct. 3, OMB agents raided the Makati Cinema Square on Chino Roces Avenue in Makati, as well as Carmelo and Raon in Sta. Cruz, Manila, and seized P10 million worth of pirated video compact discs (VCDs) and digital video discs (DVDs).

They confiscated a total of 100,000 pirated discs that day, the OMB chief said.

"Sadly, there was still a significant number of pornographic discs confiscated."

EDU A34



Comic admits she received a necklace from her 'suitor'

Jay-R: I don't think I'm sexy /A40



ADVANCE Laser TREATMENT



Worrying about WRINKLES and other SIGNS of AGEING?

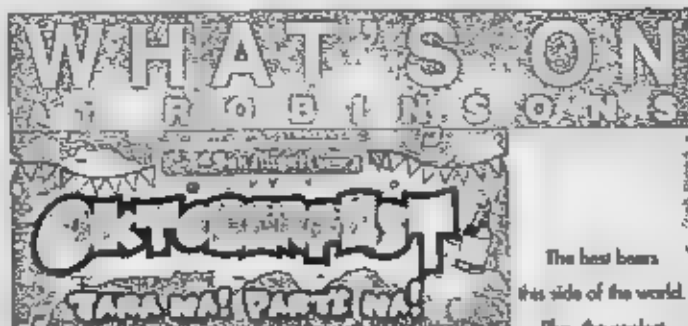
Stimulates the skin increasing collagen and elastin production, that will help your skin combat aging, strengthening tissues thus eliminating wrinkles, fine lines and laugh lines.

Now you can have smoother younger skin! So stop worrying about skin aging, visit us now and rediscover the essence of youth.

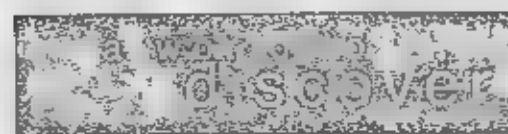
LET'S FACE IT

888 SACRED (888) 876-0722, 888 SOUTHWALL (888) 339-3794, FESTIVAL MALL ALABANG 771, 045 ALABANG TOWN CENTER 807-8411, 87 HOMES PARAQUAQUE 875-7998, 888 SAGUO (874) 818-7744, PAVILLION MALL (045) 411-3758, PARKVIEW 817-8531, GREENBELT (924) 1719, SM MALLA 177-5500, ROBINSON'S MALLA 522-8281, SM CITY BULAC (828) 1923, ROBINSON'S PLACE LIPA (043) 767-3580, SM TUGUEGARAY 777-8782, SM MEGA MALL (035) 5582, ROBINSON'S MEGA EAST 840-1721, TINGGO 826-7578, SM CITY PAMPANGA (045) 889-2150, SM CITY MARILAO (044) 238-8059, SM PARKVIEW 828-3872, SM CITY NORTH CORK 020-3150, GRAND CENTRAL 388-8857, 13 CIRCLE 5 826-0438, YUTONG (02) 851-5115, SM CITY CENTERPOINT 715-0118, HARRISON PLAZA 826-5100, GREENHILLS 722-3122, EVER COMMONWEALTH 858-7330, SM CITY LUCENA (043) 222-3311, ALI MALL, Aringay Center, 858-8908, SM OASIS MALL (044) 422-3084, MARAY CINCIN & SQUARE 844-3128

NOW OPEN GREENBELT, ALALA CENTER, BANGKAY-SAL, LIPA, EAST GRANVILLE, etc. BOON TO OPEN: CYBER ONE MALL, EASTWOOD & SM BANTANGAS



Robinson's Place Heredades
Oct 15 (Friday) 4pm - Open Parking lot
Rampas • Milk • 11th Street • Sun Catching • 5 Cycles Wind



The best bars
this side of the world.
Plus, the coolest
live sounds.
Brewing the whole
month of October.



Abutin Mo ang
Magandang Kinabukasan
sa halagang P28 lang!



Sa P28 lang bawel araw, masisiguro mo ang magandang kinabukasan ng inyong pamilya - sa PHILAM PLANS PANGARAP PENSION PLAN. Kumpleto ang mga features ng PHILAM PLANS PANGARAP kaya angkop sa inyong pangangailangan!

TAPAT: Garantisado ang sigurado ang magandang kinabukasan dahil sagot ka ng AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP (AIG), PHILAMUSE at PHILAM PLANS, isa sa pangkat ng mga pangangailangan ng pangangailangan ng mga kompanya sa Pilipinas at sa buong mundo.

ABOT-KAYA: Sa P28 lamang bawel araw, may maraming mga benepisyo sa kinabukasan ng mga kinabukasan mo.

SAKIT: Sa sagot sa halaga, pagkakatapos ka ng ating mga benepisyo sa kinabukasan.

Tawag agad sa (02) 528-5200, bumabita sa pinakamalapit na Philam Plans Office o hanapin ang inyong lokal na sales consultant.

ANG PANGARAP MO, SAGOT NG PHILAM PLANS

Nakikiisa sa Pamilyang Pilipino

AIG A Member Company of American International Group, Inc.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pro-Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Processing Service • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Service

The American International Group of Companies has been established since 1900. Its headquarters is in New York City. The group has branches in many countries. The group has been established since 1900. Its headquarters is in New York City. The group has branches in many countries. The group has been established since 1900. Its headquarters is in New York City. The group has branches in many countries.

ENTERTAINMENT

Too much of a good thing

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2004

FILIPINO chanteuses are proud of their ability to "make birit" or to belt out songs with maximum range and local power. Trouble is, when you get too much of a good thing, it becomes a liability—as well as a real strain on the singers' vocal cords and the listeners' eardrums.

That's what belting and birit have degenerated to in these parts, no thanks to their prime exponents, like Regine Velasquez, Dulce, Sarah Geronimo and Sheryn Regis.

Fact is, however, the fault is not so much in our singing stars' readiness to display and belabor their power, as it is in Filipino music lovers' insistence that their favorite singers practically kill themselves to make an impression on the local audience's benumbed and unsubtle sensibilities.

This really is none of our business, except for the fact that it makes the local

scene so strident and trying-hard. It also robs us of variety, contrast, insightful interpretation, and all of the niceties that make music such a beautiful, empathetic expression of our thoughts and feelings.

When female singers belt one song after another at peak volume because that's what their listeners expect and even demand, we get overwhelmed and eventually sated with all that tuneless noise.

How much better it would be if a singer belts one number, then follows up with an intimate song for contrast, and goes on to a different kind of beat, before going back to birit mode.

Some years ago, we suggested to Dulce that she opt for this more varied, subtle and less relentless approach. To her credit, Dulce, one of our most celebrated belters, tried it out, and her range

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre



as a performer increased.

But the Regines and the Sarahs may not be that easy to convince. After all, they've built their careers on sheer lung power, and thus may hesitate to give up their advantage.

Even if they are predisposed to consider more varied and less musically hard-sell options, their fans may turn out to be less amenable to adjusting the way they get their musical kicks.

But they should really give it a go, so they can catch up with the rest of the musical world, and make musical interpretation a less stressful and more aesthetically rewarding endeavor for the singing stars they profess to adore and love.

And they should do it real soon, because the birit trend is well on its way to degenerating into a plague.

Many younger singers are now being given the crazy notion that the only way they'll make it as singing stars in these parts is by going full-throttle the birit way—with a vengeance.

Indeed, there are many singing tiles on TV, including one unsavily titled "Birit Queen," that stress volume and high notes above all else. Thus, a whole new generation of our chanteuses is being led down the wrong musical road, to everyone's loss and dismay.

'Mythbusters'

EVERY Friday this month at 8 p.m., Discovery Channel telecasts "Mythbusters," a series that tests a multitude of myths, with the hosts even putting their own bodies on the line to unearth the truth behind the legends.

For instance, legend has it that cola can do much more than quench thirst.

Hosts Adam and Jamie try to find out if in fact the popular soda can remove bloodstains, polish chrome, dissolve a nail, remove a grease stain from clothing, or act as a spermicide.

Also: Can someone pumping gas at a service station set off an explosion by using a cell phone? Jamie and Adam fill their blast chamber with gasoline fumes and a ringing cell phone, then step back and wait for the fireworks.

Link Center for the Deaf

LEARN the language of the hands at Link Center for the Deaf, a non-profit organization whose primary aim is to promote awareness of the deaf to the mainstream of Philippine society.

The center's sign language program provides participants with added knowledge about deafness, skills and opportunities for personal growth through interaction with deaf students. Call 426-0382.

'Covers'

REGINE Velasquez's "Covers" album hit stores on Oct. 10. The compilation is made up of cover versions of songs popularized by other artists.

Cuts include "Each Day With You," first recorded by Martin Nievera, "Hang On" and "Di Bale Na Lang" by Gary Valenciano, "Minsan Lang Kitang Iibigin" by Ariel Rivera, "Araw Gabi" by Nony Zueiga, "Forevermore" by Side A, "Paalam" by Basil Valdez, "Perfect" by True Faith, "Mahal na Mahal Kita" by Archie D, and "Ang Alang Awitin" by Bong Gabriel.

Regine performs at the Podium on Oct. 24, presented by Astroplus.



"BIRIT" QUEEN Regine Velasquez is the prime exponent of belting and "birit."

'Digital LG Challenge'

THE MUCH AWAITED War of the Wizards is only a few episodes away. This month, over 200 contenders battle it out for the final seven slots in the forthcoming Grand Wizard episode of GMA 7's "Digital LG Challenge."

Other schools competing: Oct. 17, St. Columban College and Cainta Catholic School; Oct. 24, Angelicum College and St. John Hill Academy; And Oct. 31, Lakandula High School and Camp Crame High School.

Arceo clan reunion

THE ARCEO clan will have its reunion on Oct. 16 and 17 at the covered court of St. Bridget's College in Batangas City. Clan members here and abroad who are doctors and nurses will conduct a medical mission at the Parish Hall, Basilica grounds, on Oct. 17.

Activities on Oct. 17: 10 a.m. Mass, musical program, lunch games, photo opportunities, and snacks. Registration starts at 8 a.m. The book "Arceo Generations: A Family Tree," edited by Cesar Sol Arceo, will be revised, as family data is made available during the reunion.

ABS-CBN

THE MUSICMAN AT 50

OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2004

CULTURAL CENTER PHILIPPINES

Together with the country's biggest and most respected artists:

Sarah Geronimo • Janine Gibbs • Kehl Ladesma • Piale Pascual • Jericho Rosales
 Basil Valdez • Gary Valenciano • Regine Velasquez
 Boy Abunda • Al-mi Dolores Alas • Arnel Ignacio

plus an ALL-STAR CAST

Host: JET SET • Guest: JOYCE BARRERA

For Ticket Inquiries and Reservations
TICKETWORLD at 891-9999/891-5610 and www.ticketworld.com
 National Bookstore, SM Mall, Tower Records Makati & Alabang, Ayala Cinemas, Greenbelt 1 and Glorietta 1,
 Selected Robinson's Department Stores

Orchestra Center: P2,900 • Lower Boxes: P2,500 • Orchestra Seats: P2,000 • Box Office Seats: P1,500 • Balcony 1: P1,000 • Balcony 2: P500

Edu: Yes, Ai Ai and I...

From page A33

cated," Edu added.

"But the number of pirated DVDs decreased and most of the VCDs were replicated only through burners."

He said no untoward incidents happened during the raids, unlike during a raid last month at the Virra

Mall in Greenhills, where seven persons were injured, including six agents of the OMB.

"We're being very careful this time," he said. "We don't want anything like that to happen again."

Last month, two planes carrying pi-

rated materials were intercepted at the Davao International Airport in the South, he said.

"We are now considering putting up a satellite office in Davao," he said.

"This way, we can also watch over the ports in General Santos and Cebu."



IT'S HUNTING SEASON

CANNES
INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING FESTIVAL

MAMAMAYAGPAG NA ANG PINAKAMALAKAS NA SUPER-BIDA!

JUDY ANN SANTOS

KRYSTAL

EL GRAN PUNO DEL EMILIO GARCIA

CESAR PEREZ • JUAN CARLOS • ALMA CONCEPCION • BONNIE LAZAR • SUSAN ARTEAGA • 7 FINCHES • JUAN CARLOS
 ALVARADO • SANTIAGO • MICHAEL FLORES • ANGEL JACOB • YANNA GARCIA • JAMES JE. PRADY • JUAN CARLOS
 SPAN • JUAN CARLOS • JESSE PINERA • ROBERTO • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • MICHAEL CONAL • JUAN CARLOS
 GUY • JUAN CARLOS • GUY • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS • JUAN CARLOS

WILLIAMS BROTHERS COMPANY, INC. 2001 W. 10TH AVE. SUITE 200, DENVER, CO 80202

MAMAYANG GABI NA!

ABS-CBN

DIGITAL

Pacific Blue

sardines

The other side of Side A's Joey G

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by Romy Hornblades

TOPS. "For casual wear, I wear tight-fitting shirts, like these Fubu shirts. I also like cotton sleeveless shirts, but I can't wear them during gigs. Bowd!

"This long-sleeve shirt is a gift from my manager, Wyngard Tracy. It's in orange, green, yellow, etc. It's best paired with jeans.

"You won't see me wearing this polo shirt when I'm out on the street. This is just for shows. I wore this in my first-ever concert for Crossover in 2002. I bought it for that particular event."

Shoes. "I really love shoes, especially boots. I first wore this pair in my first solo concert. I bought this at Homme at Shangri-la. I feel confident when I wear it onstage.

"I like pointed boots because they're in fashion now.

"For shows, I have blue suede shoes. I bought them in the States. I like shopping when I go out of the country.

"These New Balance rubber shoes are my favorite for work-out. The band's sports doctor prescribed these. He said rubber shoes have to match the shape of your feet. They come in a series, mine is the ninth, so it has the number 09 on the back."

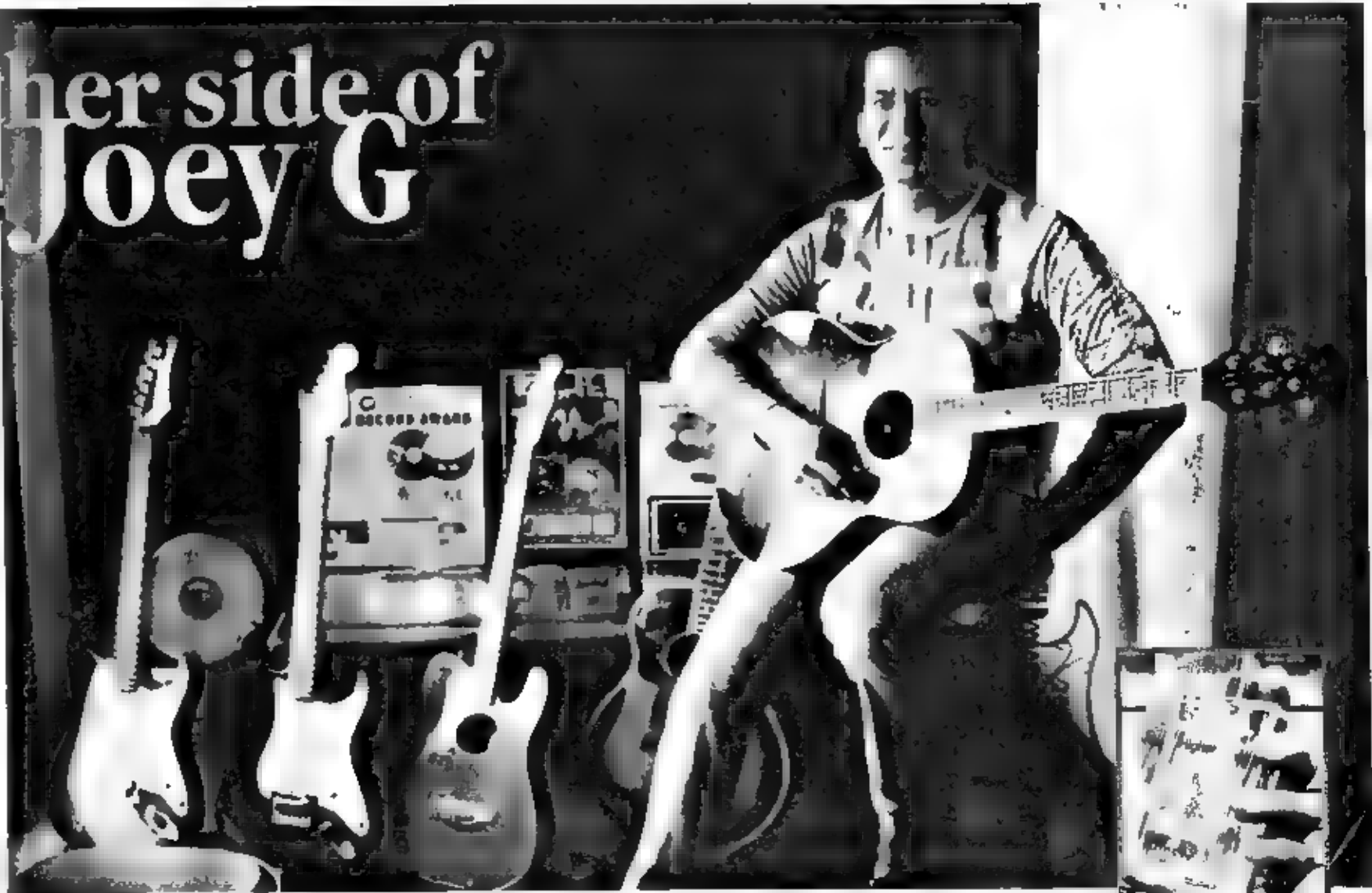
Suits. "I wore this black suit from Homme when I performed at the WWF (World Wide Foundation) fund-raising concert. I'm not sure, but I think it's made of silk. The undergarment is chiffon."

Jackets. "Most of our tours in the US are scheduled during the winter. I always use my Armani leather jacket. It's really warm. I like its tapered look, it makes me look slim. It's great especially when you don't want to bring too many jackets on your trip."

Jeans. "I like wearing jeans a lot. Nowadays, I'm into the flared types. They're also in fashion now. I also like the fabric of this flared pair from Zara because it's soft. I wear baggy pants, especially when I go to the mall. I match them with comfy rubber shoes. But for shows, I go for the flashy ones like these red corduroy jeans from Diesel. You won't see me wearing this to the mall, though."

Belts. "I buy belts depending on how good they look with my jeans or pants. I have lots of belts, but most of them are in storage now. I hardly use them anymore. I feel uncomfortable when I wear one, especially when playing the guitar Sumasabit."

Perfumes. "Nowadays, I'm into Higher Energy by Dior. I'm very particular with scents. I like them a bit woody (laughs). Higher En-



GUITAR MAN, whose string instruments include a red Fender and a 1976 gift from his sister, gets a spirit lift from Dior's High Energy (inset).

ergy is very light. It's like I've just stepped out of the bath. This is actually my first bottle. I used to wear Bulgari Extreme."

Sleepwear. "I recently bought a couple of boxer shorts from Joe Boxer. I have Spiderman and Sponge Bob boxers. Not only are they comfortable, they're also cute. For tops, I wear cotton sing-dos. I don't like wearing pajamas because they make me itch sometimes, and sort of restrict my movement."

Gym outfits. "This black pair of Marks and Spencer jogging pants is a favorite. I buy branded items like this because I know I can use them for a long time. I've been using this pair of jogging pants for years but it still looks okay. It has several layers of fabric, so it really makes me sweat."

Bags. "This black sling bag is the newest bag my wife bought me. I like it because it's very handy. Normally, it contains my make-up and other small items I need for shows."

Musical instruments. "My newest find is this red electric guitar from Fender. Fender released only a limited number of units. I think there are only 30 of this in the States. The sound, color and design are all good. First-time buyers should make sure the sound is good, the neck is comfortable to hold, and the gauges are correct."

"I still keep the Yamaha acoustic guitar I got as a gift in 1976. My sister gave it to me. I take care of my things really well. I had it repaired recently. I bought my first guitar in 1987."

"The grand piano was one of the things I inherited from my father. I have just had it restored. Some of the wood pieces here are already new. It still works."

Joey Generoso, lead vocalist of Side A, one of the most sought-after bands in the country, says he actually spends more time with his family than a father with an 8-hour job does.

"A normal gig only lasts for about two hours," says the band

GIRLIE'S GIFT, the sling bag from his wife

man popularly known as Joey G. "I don't have to leave my work place to go to gimmicks because my gigs are my gimmicks. My schedule becomes hectic only when the group has a major concert or when we're recording our album."

Joey G and his wife Girlie had been going steady for nine years before they decided to get married on Dec. 18, 1990. They now have two kids—Czarina, 12, and Jose Miguel, 9.

"My wife is very supportive," Joey G tells INQUIRER Entertainment in an interview at the three-story Generoso home in Fairview, Quezon City. "My kids understand my work."

"He's a family man," Girlie says of her husband. "He really makes time for the kids. When he comes home from his gigs at night, the first thing he does is check on the kids. Sometimes, he helps them with their assignments if I don't have time."

"He always tells me, 'we should have time for us, hindi puro sa kids.' That's why we always go out on dates or play badminton together."

Joey grew up in a family of musicians. When he decided to study music in college, his parents were

very supportive. "My dad's a musician, too," he shares. "Unlike other dads, he allowed me to take up music because he understood. That's why if my kids want to pursue the same career, I will also support them."

He says both Czarina and Jose Miguel are showing interest in playing the piano and the guitar. "They also sing, like their mom, who used to be a choir member in high school," he says.

Joey G and his band mates Naldy Gonzales (musical director, keyboardist), Kelly Badon (lead guitar), Joey Benin (bass guitar) and Ernie Severino (drums) are especially busy in November and December, says Girlie.

"We never get to celebrate our wedding anniversary on time because the band is always busy," says Girlie, adding that her husband gifted her with a brand new car a few months ago.

"We have a show in Hong Kong on Dec. 18, if things go as planned," says Joey. "I'll take her along so she can go shopping."

From November to December, Side A is scheduled to perform at the Lisner Auditorium in Washington DC; the All Sports Center in Las Vegas; the Veteran Memorial Auditorium in Columbus, Ohio; and the Humble Civic Center in Houston, Texas.

The group performs regularly at Suburbia in Maate every Monday and at Tavern on the Square in Makati every Wednesday.

"I'm like Joey's assistant," says Girlie. "He asks me where his things are. When he needs a haircut or a new pair of shoes, I tell

THE BELTER hardly uses belts now because they get in the way of his guitar-playing.

him. He is actually the vainest in the group."

Joey and Girlie share a walk-in closet connected to the master bedroom on the second floor of their home. Girlie arranged Joey's things for the INQUIRER Entertainment visit "so he'll know where to find his favorite stuff."

"What we wear during special shows is different from what we wear during our regular gigs," Joey explains. "They are flashier than those for regular gigs, where we're allowed to wear jeans and polo shirts."

"We can't be too casual, though. T-shirts, cotton sleeveless shirts and rubber shoes are not allowed."

When he goes out with his family or visits his Blue Angel water refilling station on Regalado Avenue, he prefers to wear his most comfy outfit, like the dri-fit Fubu shirts and the New Balance rubber shoes his "sports doctor" especially prescribed for him.



BRRR! For when it's really cold, as in the US, this Armani jacket



WYNGARD'S COLORS, the shirt from his manager



HOMME for the music man



RESTORED PIANO goes well with dri-fit Fubu shirt.

UP THE DOWN staircase, the band singer is also a devoted family man.

Raising Kate Hudson

By Janet Susan R. Nepales
LA Correspondent

LOS ANGELES—The change in Kate Hudson is very obvious.

Two years ago, when we interviewed Hudson for her box-office hit "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days" with Matthew McConaughey, she was a sudden gush of excess energy, full of excitement and liveliness.

Full of sunshine, optimism and joie de vivre, Hudson was the ultimate charmer whose smile warmed the room the minute she walked in. She was impeccably dressed that time in a slinky, spaghetti-strapped, flaming red Alberta Ferretti mini dress with matching sexy Dior slip-on shoes.

Today, two years later, the Hollywood princess, daughter of famous parents Goldie Hawn and long-time partner Kurt Russell (actually her stepdad but he has been "Pa" to her all these years), has tied her blonde locks in a pony tail, and is donning a simple pink top with an all-white ensemble of pants and jacket.

There is an air of seriousness and simplicity about her as she nurses a cup of hot tea and tucks one leg under the other when she sits beside us this breezy afternoon at the Casa del Mar hotel in Santa Monica. This time around, the Golden Girl looked more like a tired young wife and mother from Hollywood.

Shouting 'action!'

She does not speak like the lighthearted that she was two years ago. Now, at 25, married for four years to her rocker husband, Chris Robinson, and mother to 10-month-old Ryder, Hudson appears much calmer, wiser and more confident. Still very much down-to-earth and open, she now exudes this "normalness" that usually is not seen especially among Hollywood royalty.

For one who practically grew up in the studios, Hudson does not have the bratty air of a celebrity child.

"I have known Kate since she was a kid and she used to sit on my lap and yell 'action,'" recalls Garry Marshall ("Pretty Woman," "Princess Diaries," "Runaway Bride") who directs Hudson in her new romantic-comedy, "Raising Helen." "Now, when Kate yells action with me, the circles of life continue."

Hudson, who won a Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award nomination for her role in Cameron Crowe's celebrated semi-autobiographical movie, "Almost Famous," is the lead in the Marshall flick that is about the story of top fashion model agent Helen Harris (Hudson), who suddenly finds herself as the guardian of a nephew and two nieces. The party-loving, club-hopping fashionista is shocked about her new mom role. Helen's older married sister, Jenny Portman (Joan Cusack), feels the three

kids should have been left in her care instead.

The transformation from the free-dom-loving career girl to super surrogate mom is made more complicated when Helen meets the handsome young pastor and principal of the kids' school, Dan Parker (John Corbett), whom she befriends and asks for advice.

Greatest asset
"Kate is a natural on the set," contin-

ues Marshall who talks as if he were Hudson's doting grandpa (and he has the right). "I don't need to teach her anything because she instinctively knows already what to do. She has been on the set all her life that everything comes out naturally for her. She always has that special touch that makes the scene more realistic. I am glad she has pursued this ca-

RAISING/AJB



COOL MOM Kate Hudson



IN "RAISING Helen," she gets friendship and advice from John Corbett.

MOVIE GUIDE NOW SHOWING

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Cinema 2000 Target Mall 1 2 3 4 5 Movie Theaters of the New Millennium Cinema 2000 Target Mall 1 2 3 4 5 RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED | Lianas MovieCity (Cebu) tel (045) 543.7202 OPEN WATER SHARK TALE CRISANTA... IBA KA PUNISHER THE NOTEBOOK | Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel (045) 867.5001 to 03 1 2 3 4 PUNISHER SHARK TALE OPEN WATER THE NOTEBOOK |
| Cinema 2000 Target Mall 1 2 3 4 5 RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED | Mega Center Mall (Cebu) tel (044) 463.3203 1 2 3 4 BANGKOK HAUNTED THE BOURNE SUPREMACY FENG SHUI | Cine Nepo (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0123 1 2 3 4 TOOLBOX MURDER OPEN WATER PUNISHER SHARK TALE |
| Cinema 2000 Target Mall 1 2 3 4 5 RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED | Fiesta World Mall (Lipa) tel (043) 983.8796 1 2 3 4 CRISANTA... IBA KA RAISING HELEN GODSEND THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | Cine Nepo (Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489 1 2 3 4 GODSEND 13 GOING ON 30 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY THE EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING |
| Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall (Biliran) tel (045) 413.1145 1 2 3 4 SHARK TALE PUNISHER | Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Ordneta) tel (075) 568.6771 1 2 3 4 FENG SHUI GODSEND THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | Centre Plaza Cinema (Davao, Davao) tel (042) 237.7007 1 2 THE TERMINAL 13 GOING ON 30 |
| Cinema 2000 Cinemagix (Ordneta) tel (075) 568.6771 1 2 3 4 FENG SHUI GODSEND THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | Cinema 2000 Metrotown (Tarlac) tel (045) 983.1729 1 2 3 4 FENG SHUI THE TERMINAL MIND HUNTERS THE EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING | Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Pamplona) tel (042) 796320 1 2 3 4 RAISING HELEN SECRET WINDOWS THE BOURNE SUPREMACY |

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Shark Tale

A new school's gonna rule

I what to watch I

MITCH Rating: PG-13

OPEN WATER

SM City Cebu Cinema 2
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 1
SM City Pangasinana Cinema 1

MITCH Rating: G

SHARK TALE

SM City Bacoor Cinema 2
SM City Pangasinana Cinema 2
SM City Cebu Cinema 3
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 2
SM City Baguio Cinema 4
SM City Davao Cinema 5

MITCH Rating: R-13

THE PUNISHER

SM City Marikina Cinema 3
SM City Dasmariñas Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor Cinema 3
SM City Pangasinana Cinema 5

STILL SHOWING

BOURNE SUPREMACY
MITCH RATING: PG-13

SM City Bacoor Cinema 2
SM City Cebu Cinema 1
SM City Lucena Cinema 4
SM City Iloilo Cinema 5
SM City Cagayan Cinema 1

RESIDENT EVIL
MITCH RATING: R-13

SM City Cebu Cinema 1
SM City Bacoor Cinema 2

13 GOING ON 30
MITCH RATING: PG-13

SM City Davao Cinema 3
SM City Cebu Cinema 1

THE PUNISHER
MITCH RATING: R-13

SM City Marikina Cinema 2
SM City Baguio Cinema 5

Movies are subject to change without prior notice. For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS FOR ALL BRANCHES
Visit us www.robinsonsmovieworld.com 635-5555

TOP MOVIE THEATER

22nd Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2004
Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

LIPA 757-3664 / 312-5878

- THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
- SECRET WINDOW
- GODSEND
- FENG SHUI
- RAISING HELEN

STA. ROSA (048) 837-0907

- THE PUNISHER
- THE NOTEBOOK
- OPEN WATER
- FENG SHUI
- SHARK TALE

DASMARIÑAS 882-2125 / 416-4332

- THE PUNISHER
- OPEN WATER
- SHARK TALE
- HEAVEN'S POND
- SECRET WINDOW

IMUS 471-6188 / 875-5858

- THE PUNISHER
- RES DENT EVIL 2
- SECRETARY
- SHARK TALE
- FENG SHUI
- OPEN WATER

ANGELES 882-2348

- OPEN WATER
- THE PUNISHER
- THE NOTEBOOK
- SHARK TALE

STARMILLS 875-1927 / 991-5270

- RAISING HELEN
- KRISANTA... IBA KA
- SHARK TALE
- THE PUNISHER
- OPEN WATER
- SECRET WINDOW

BACOLOD 441-4458 / 73

- RESERVE
- 13 GOING ON 30
- THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
- EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
- THE NOTEBOOK
- THE TOOL BOX MURDERS

ILOILO 318-9076 / 70

- THE BOURNE SUPREMACY
- SHARK TALE
- JANDARA
- 13 GOING ON 30
- EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING
- HAUNTED SPIRITS 2

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Raising Kate Hudson

From page A37

reer because she is very talented." Hudson admits she really did not prepare much for the role because "I got my inspiration already from my own family. I am very close to my parents and I think I have the coolest parents in the world. They have always

taught me to find humor in everything, even during the rough times, and true indeed, this has become my greatest asset." Hudson admits that she enjoys being a wife to former Black Crowes band member Chris Robinson and mother to Ryder. "Chris is one person whom people

may not understand but he is the most thoughtful, sensitive and caring person I have ever known," Hudson gushes as she tosses her head for emphasis. "He does not mind changing diapers or taking care of Ryder. He wakes up in the middle of the night as well to help. He loves being a daddy."

Robinson, who has a new band called the New Earth Mud, is a tall, rugged, lanky, bearded, quiet guy who is a complete opposite of the more fashionable and sociable Hudson. His spontaneity, sincerity and confidence in himself, according to Hudson, are some of the traits that made the Hollywood princess attracted to him.

Let men be men

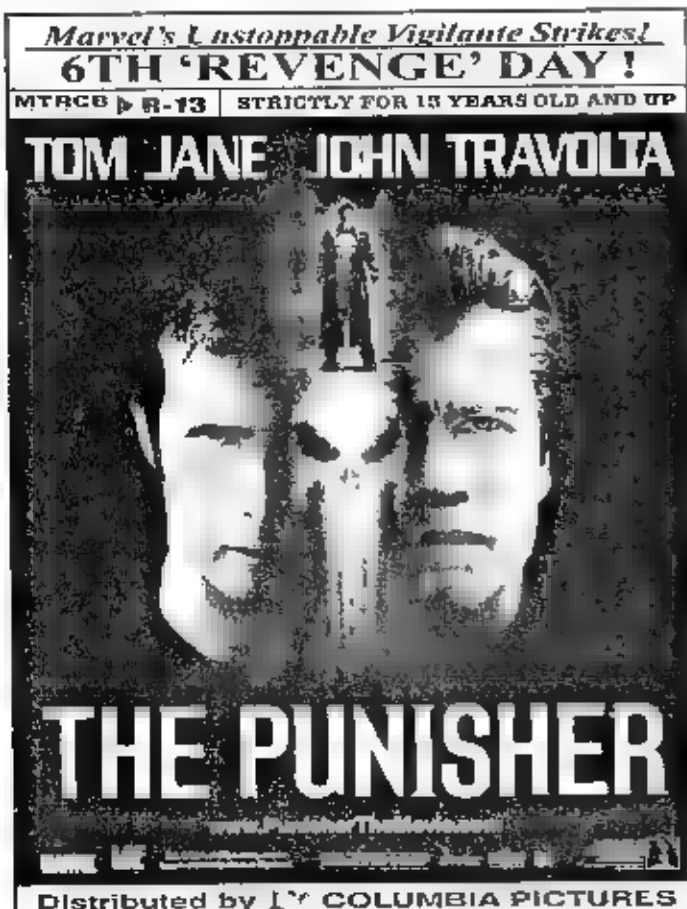
On Hudson's 25th birthday,

Robinson surprised her with a birthday bash at the Funky Butt bar and restaurant in New Orleans where Hudson was filming her next movie, "Skeleton Key." "He even had a horse-drawn carriage take us to the restaurant and when we arrived, my friends and some of my co-workers were already there," Hudson narrates, her eyes glowing. "He even hired a jazz band and jammed with them." Very close to her mom, Goldie Hawn, Hudson reveals, "One thing my mother always told me was to let men be men," says Hudson. "She said they should always feel that they are the ones wearing the pants in the house

and to respect and love each other always. My mom adds that we should always find time for ourselves to have fun. I know she does this, too, since she is a very busy lady but still, she and my Pa (Kurt Russell) always find time to enjoy themselves." As a new mom Hudson loves to cuddle up to her baby and breastfeed him as long as she can. "I am not the kind of celebrity mom who will leave everything to the nanny," she says, "I would like my son Ryder to be as close to me as I am to my own mother." And then she adds with a smile, "I hope, one day, he would also think I am a 'cool' mom."

Marvel's Unstoppable Vigilante Strikes!
6TH 'REVENGE' DAY!
MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OLD AND UP

TOM JANE JOHN TRAVOLTA



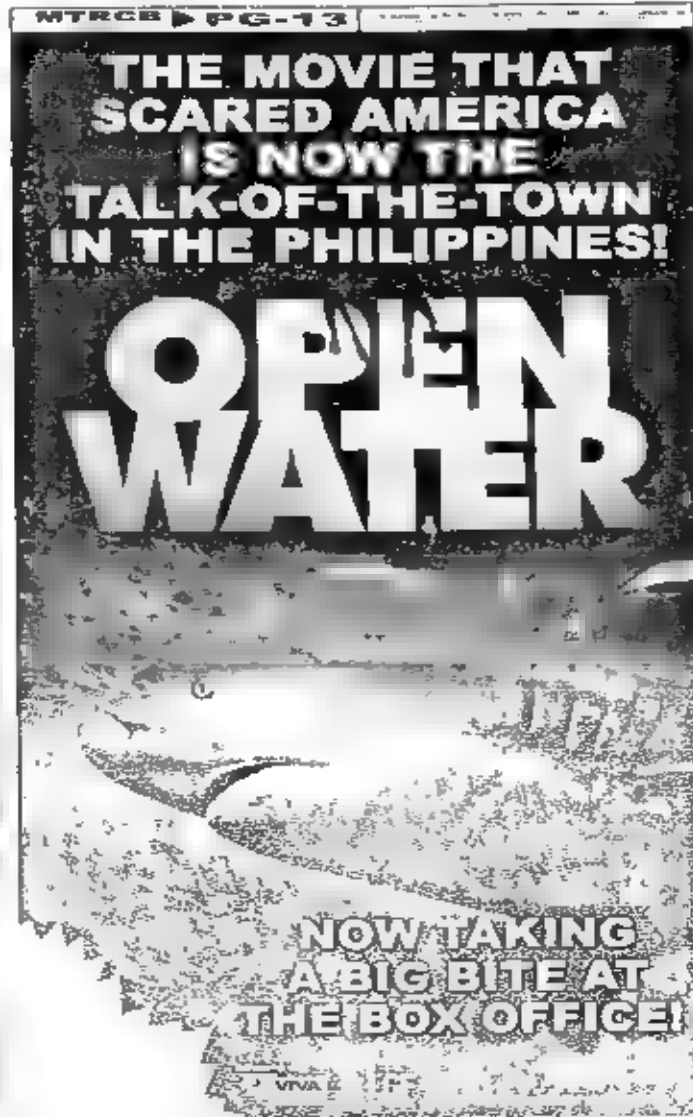
THE PUNISHER

Distributed by LYN COLUMBIA PICTURES

MTRCB PG-13

THE MOVIE THAT SCARED AMERICA IS NOW THE TALK-OF-THE-TOWN IN THE PHILIPPINES!

OPEN WATER



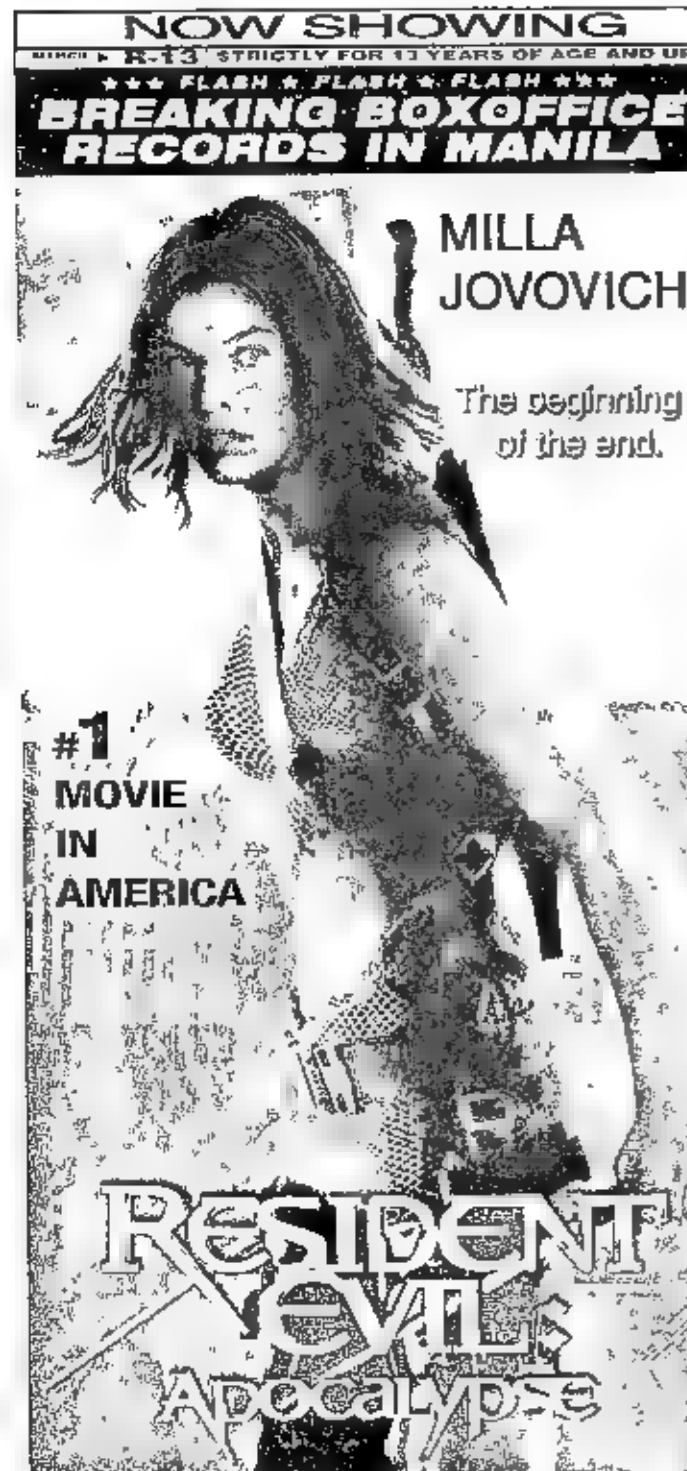
NOW TAKING A BIG BITE AT THE BOX OFFICE!

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
*** FLASH *** FLASH *** FLASH ***
BREAKING BOXOFFICE RECORDS IN MANILA

MILLA JOVOVICH

The beginning of the end.

#1 MOVIE IN AMERICA



RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB PG-13 Children under 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult

ANOTHER "TALK-OF-THE-TOWN" ROMANTIC LOVE STORY FROM THE COMPANY THAT GAVE YOU "THE NOTEBOOK"

HELEN HUNTER PAUL BETTANY



WIMBLEDON

Chris Walken leaves his mark

LOS ANGELES—Actor Christopher Walken made an impression on Hollywood as he left his hand and footprints at the fabled Grauman's Chinese Theater.

"This is a thrill, a big day for me," Walken said at Friday's ceremony. "I'm not sure how I arrived at this place today, but one sure thing: I've been lucky. Thank you for this day."

The 61-year-old Oscar winner said he stamped prints of dancing shoes into the theater's cement, recalling his childhood training as a dancer.

"These are my favorite shoes," Walken said. Though the dancing shoes were crusted with cement, Walken joked that he might hang them off his car's rearview mirror.

Walken left his imprints on the forecourt of the lavish Chinese-style movie palace where Tinseltown's top stars have made their mark since the days of silent actors Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks in 1927.

Celebrities from Marilyn Monroe to Betty Davis, Sylvester Stallone and Donald Duck have all plunged their hands and feet into

a square of wet cement to ensure they are enshrined in Hollywood for posterity.

The ceremony coincided with the opening of Walken's latest film, "Around the Bend," about four generations of men in a broken family who reunite. Early chatter said the role could win him another Oscar nomination.

Walken broke into show business as a song and dance man. His role in Michael Cimino's "The Deer Hunter" (1978) as a Vietnam veteran earned him an Academy Award for best supporting actor.

He also was nominated for a 2002 Oscar for his performance in Steven Spielberg's "Catch Me If You Can."

Overall, he's starred in more than 50 films, including "Pulp Fiction," "Beverly Hills Cop," "Pennies from Heaven," "Man on Fire," and "Annie Hall."

The first footprints at Grauman's Chinese Theater were made by Norma Talmadge in 1927.

Legend says she accidentally stepped in wet concrete outside the building. AFP AP

OPENS OCTOBER 13!
MTRCB PG-13 PARENTS ARE ADVISED OF SOME BATTLE SCENES THAT MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN BELOW 8 YRS OLD.

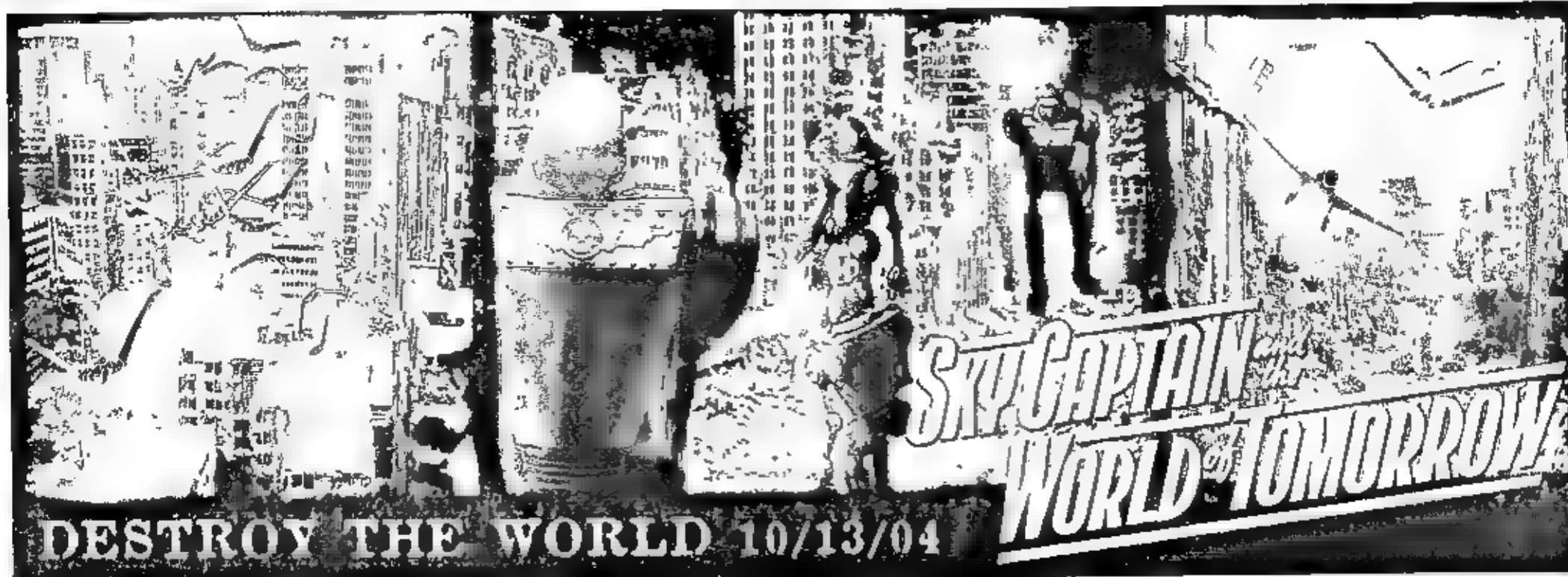
FROM THE PRODUCER OF "THE TALENTED MR. RYAN" AND "THE LONG WALK HOME"

HOUSTON YOUNG



THE HOUSE OF THE DEAD

DISTRIBUTED BY WARNER BROS. CO. INC.



SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

DESTROY THE WORLD 10/13/04

Jay-R: I don't think I'm sexy

From page A40

tive to both opportunities for him to show his more daring side—the magazine centerfold and the Bench underwear show—but he feels rather removed from the sex symbol label.

"Medyo payat po ako," he says in Filipino fluently. "But sana if I had muscles and stuff, I need to work out more. I don't think I'm sexy. Nahhiya rin po ako magtaungal (ng damit). It's easier for me if I'm wearing my clothes. But every one seems to like it."

It may be surprising to some that the singer, whose real name is Gaudencio Aquino Sillona III, grew up in Los Angeles but speaks and sings Filipino well. This has proven very advantageous for him in his year and a half in local show biz.

"I was born and raised there," he says. "Sa bahay, Filipino culture. Sa labas, American culture with friends, at school, gymmicks. Sa bahay tagalog, Tagalog, we use po at opa, hindi nagawata ang ampaaya sa ulam. Ako ang nagahugas ang pinggan, nagwaalis, ganon."

Musical parents

Growing up in a music-loving household has allowed Jay-R to pursue performing at a young age, when his potential as a singing and dancing star was noticed by an aunt who was visiting L.A., seasoned choreographer Geleen Eugenio.

"I had my own equipment," says Jay-R. "I produce my own music. But there came an opportunity when Tita Geleen told me she could give me a record deal and a network deal, so I accepted."

Jay-R, the youngest of four kids, used to emulate idols Strevie Wonder, Luther Vandross, Gary V and Brian McKnight. "But mostly, pamilya ko tagalog. Yung ate ko, especially. She's abroad, finishing her jazz album. Most nights, my daddy plays the piano, and my mommy sings. They do it for, like, hours. Natutulog na kami, kumakanta pa sila!"

His parents, sister and two young nieces were his special guests in his Sept. 25 concert, "Gametace Reload" at the Park Arts Theater, alongside star celebs Regine Velasquez, Ai Ai delas Aas and Kyla. Five days after the concert, his family left to go back to various obligations abroad.

Jay-R's tight work schedule leaves him very little time for rest periods and relationships, he says. He admits to having had three girlfriends in the US, but none here, so far.

"Wala po akong girlfriend," he says, briefly pauses, and gamely adds, "Wala ring boyfriend."

When asked if he found someone whom he might be interested in dating, he deadpanned, "Si Ate Glow," referring to a gay impersonator.

Fans who pinch

And Filipino fans have been very appreciative of him. He especially feels touched when strangers do heartfelt renditions of his songs "Bakit Pa Ba?" and "Kung Maha. Mo S'ya." Various product endorsements have also made him easily recognizable, with his posters, print ads and gigantic billboards seen practically everywhere in the metropolis.

Sales of his debut album "Gametace" from Universal Records have gone platinum, and a follow-up effort will be released by Christmas.

"After shows, fans are pretty wild," he says.

"They pinch! It's hard for me to get through crowds. Dapat may paghahawi. But in malls, they just want pictures or autographs, they don't rush me or anything. I have to stop, maybe for about two minutes at a time, and then I walk again."

The current workload, however, is something he takes seriously, which he says isn't that different from his past work abroad. He took up a year of computer engineering at DeVry University, but dropped out to pursue performing when the opportunities beckoned.

He was in two



AT HOME in the US, he spoke Filipino at home, ate "ampalaya," washed dishes and swept the floor.

Mraz on live CD

PEOPLE screamed while he sang "The Remedy" and they sang along to his "Sleep All Day" when Jason Mraz performed in a sold-out concert in Manila last May.

Now, re-live those moments with the singer-songwriter's live CD, "Tonight, Not Again: Jason Mraz Live at the Eagles Ballroom." Recorded in Milwaukee, the live album captures the curbside prophet's full concert and also features previously unreleased songs such as "1,000 Things," "Not So Usual," "No Doubling Back" and "Common Pleasure."

The 27-year-old Mraz, gifted with a high, pure voice, was at his charismatic best during the concert.

"Tonight, Not Again: Jason Mraz Live at the Eagles Ballroom" is also on film, packed with behind-the-scenes segments of Mraz's tours of the US, Europe and Japan on the DVD release available soon.

groups in the US: The Howlers, which sang 40 songs at clubs, weddings and corporate events; and First Impression, an a cappella group that toured colleges.

"I also did recordings," he says. "I sang in shows. I sold my own CD. Newspapers and magazines would interview me about my work."

"The only difference is," he adds, "I have fans here."



ANGELINA JOLIE, JUDE LAW AND GWYNETH PALTROW

SKY CAPTAIN AND THE WORLD OF TOMORROW No. 1 film in America

The first film in motion picture history to utilize more than 2,000 special FX shots, "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" is one of the most startling and stunning movies of the year.

The world that Director Kerry Conran has created is as spectacular as those that George Lucas and Peter Jackson, respectively, developed for the "Star Wars" and "Lord of the Rings" sagas.

With its pulpy, serial-like nature "Sky Captain" has a blend of high action, romance, humor and references to past films that will remind many of "Raiders of the Lost Ark." More importantly, Conran brings the same kind of breathless energy and enthusiasm to the material that Spielberg did, it feels as if it is the creation of endlessly creative kids at play on a rainy day.

"Sky Captain" is a blast from the first frame to the last, one of those visionary film epics that comes along once in a great while and rips up the map in terms of what the art form can achieve in the hands of people more keen of pushing the envelope instead of playing it safe. There are sights in this film that I will never forget for as long as I continue to watch film. There are those enormous giant robots destroying New York City and the breathtaking underwater dogfight never seen before on screen.

Released by Paramount Pictures, the film opened like summer release in an ultrawide 3,170 locations and hit the #1 spot at the US boxoffice. On its first outing outside of the US, it also took the #1 spot at the Taiwan boxoffice last week. by PETER SOBCZYNSKI, <criticdoctors.com>

R-13 OPENS OCT. 13

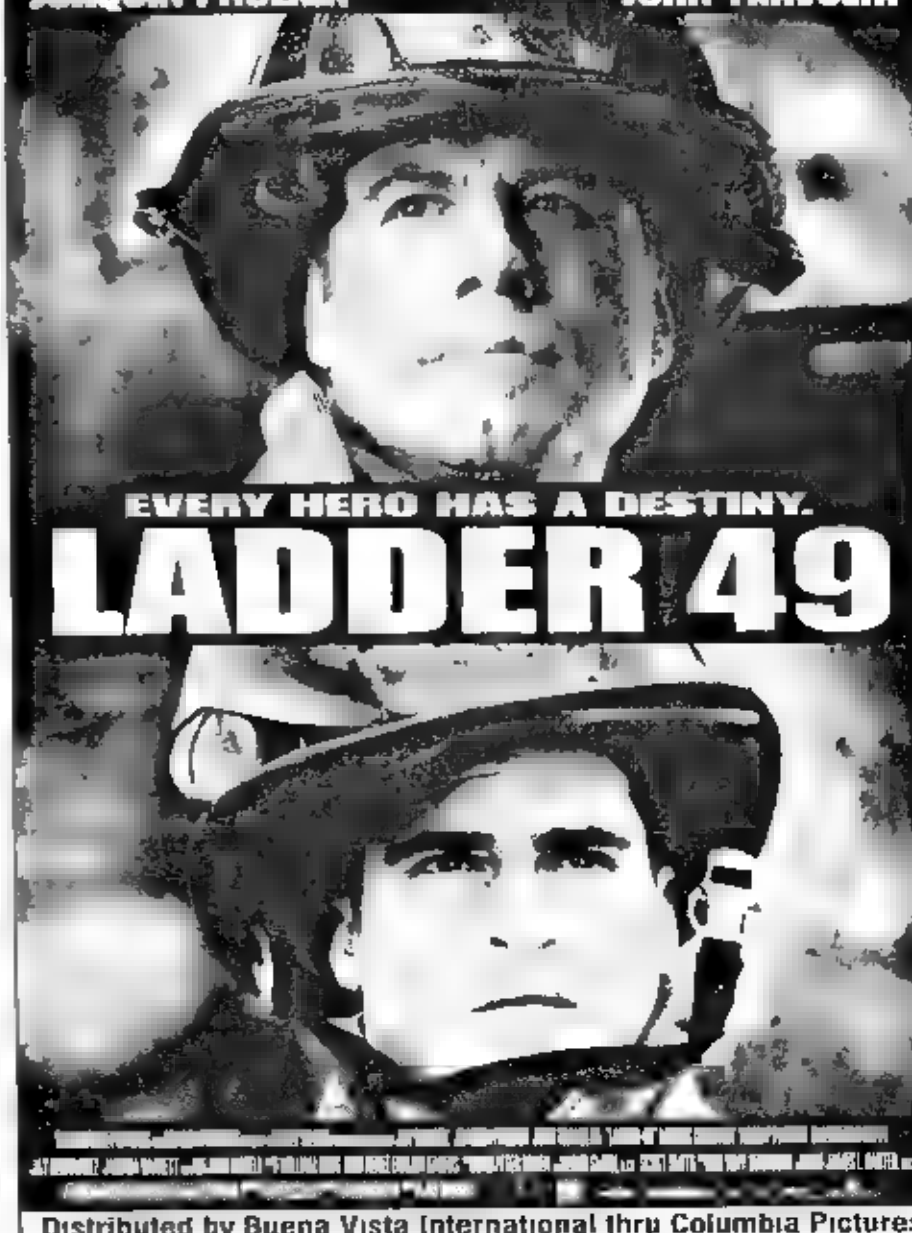
ASIA'S TOP DIRECTORS TERRIFY AUDIENCES IN THE MOST HORRIFYING GHOST STORIES EVER FILMED!



OPENS OCTOBER 13!

MTCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

JOAQUIN PHOENIX JOHN TRAVOLTA



OPENS OCTOBER 20

THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON IN THE WORLD IS IN YOUR HANDS.



To protect two white chicks, they have to become them.



WHITE CHICKS
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF SCARY MOVIE

Distributed by Columbia Pictures

SNEAK PREVIEW

at Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA • ERMITA
METRO EAST • NOVALICHES

October 11 & 12

For SCREENING SCHEDULES,
pls. call our CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555
or visit us:
www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MTCB Rating: PG13

REGULAR SHOWING: Oct. 20



ENTERTAINMENT



DISCOVER THOUSANDS OF FINDS. HASSLE-FREE FOR GREAT BUYS. EXPERIENCE ALL THESE IN A VAST AIR-CONDITIONED, CLEAN, SECURE, AND SAFE SHOPPING ENVIRONMENT.

The fun is in the finds

cinemas/cinemas!

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE : 886-7515

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 | SHARK TALE |
| 2 | THE PUNISHER |
| 3 | WIMBLEDON |
| 4 | OPEN WATER |
| 5 | RESIDENT EVIL |
| 6 | FENG SHUI |
| 7 | THE BOURNE SUPREMACY |

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Developed and managed by Ayala Land Inc. Another retail innovation.

Jay-R: I don't think I'm SEXY

By Oliver M. Pulumbark
Contributor

NO, JAY-R wasn't really naked under those green apples or that can of paint.

Singer Jay-R recently revealed that doing the photo shoot for Cosmopolitan Magazine's 2004 Centerfolds was, by far, easier to

do than his guest appearance in Bench Understatement underwear and fashion show last August. He was wearing boxer briefs during the magazine shoot, which was later removed through the magic of Photoshop.

The young R&B artist is thankful that people have been recep-

JAY-R A39



JAY-R: "Sona if I had muscles and stuff."

life with a plan®



BECAUSE YOU'RE ENTITLED TO FAB THINGS.

Exclusively for our subscribers, G-Plan delivers the Queer Eye for the Straight Guy soundtrack straight to your doorstep.

Text BUY to 2949

And order the Queer Eye for the Straight Guy CD for only **P350!** It will be charged to your G-Plan bill and delivered to your billing address.

Only one CD order is allowed per subscriber. Your order will be confirmed within 24 hours, subject to verification of your line's status.



all world in
MYGLOBE
EXCLUSIVE

Download the Queer Eye Theme ringtone and get the chance to be one of two lucky winners of **P500,000!**

Text QUEER to 2949

| TRACK | ARTIST | MONO | POLY | LYRICS |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|--------|--------|
| All Things** | Widellie | QUEER | QUEER2 | QUEER3 |
| Good Luck | Basement Jaxx | N132 | T132 | LY132 |
| Slow | Kylie Minogue | N133 | T133 | LY133 |
| Superstar | Jamella | N134 | T134 | LY134 |
| Surprise | Duran Duran | N135 | T135 | LY135 |
| Never Coming Home | Sting | N136 | T136 | LY136 |
| Extraordinary | Liz Phair | N137 | T137 | LY137 |
| Are You Ready For Love | Elton John | N138 | T138 | LY138 |
| You Promised Me | Ingrid | N139 | T139 | LY139 |
| Move Your Feet | Junior Senior | N140 | T140 | LY140 |

Text code* to 2949 to download tones and lyrics.
Ex. Text N137 to 2949 to download "Extraordinary" ringtone.

You EYE to 2949 for the complete list of downloads.

Text SPOT to 2949 to subscribe to daily funny tips on how to spot a queer guy.

Text STYLE to 2949 to subscribe to daily style tips.

Rates: Initial: P2.50, Ringtone: P15; Polytones and Lyrics: P20.

** The hit single from the Queer Eye soundtrack available in all music stores



hp ProLiant ML370 Server

• Tag 3 GBSD processor with
512K level 2 cache
• Smart Array 6402 dual channel USB
RAID controller
• 2-bay 100 Pin PATA Drive Cage
• 1GB DDR2-667/533 SDRAM

Special price valid until October 15, 2004

INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. 727-5001 Website: www.ics.com.ph

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 11, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BD

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net

BUSINESS

Text us your feedback: inquirer.biz name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor: Raul O. Marcelo
Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Narisma

Projecting
Gross Income
for 50 years

EIKI

MADE IN JAPAN
MULTIMEDIA PROJECTORS

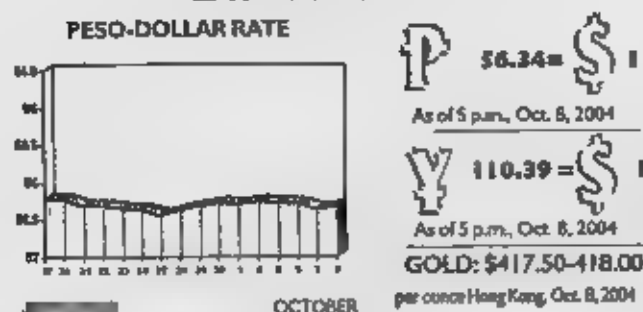
BRAIN

All Design • System Integration • Sales • Service

TEL: 722-8843 722-8845 727-9603 721-2466 721-2451
Email: brain@brain.com.ph

6 foreign groups eye stake in Slex rehab

INDICATORS CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Surging oil prices seen tempering market climb

STOCKS are expected to resume their upswing, though the climb may be tempered by increasing oil prices, analysts said.

"We remain bullish for the medium term, especially after the composite index breached the 1,800 psychological resistance level," Jose Vistan of AB Capital Securities Inc. said.

He added that investors were impressed with President Macapagal-Arroyo's commitments to institute major fiscal reforms.

"The government aims to balance the budget by 2009 and Congress is seeking to pass at least eight revenue measures that are expected to help boost state coffers. This has prompted the government and international financial agencies to raise the country's growth targets for 2004 and 2005. Moreover, there has been a sense of political stability in the country these days," he added.

What should cap the market's bullishness are the downgrade warnings by international credit-rating firms.

Standard & Poor's last week warned of a sovereign downgrade for the country due to what it perceived as the slow progress in initiating fiscal reforms.

Despite these, the week ended on a sweet note, as the composite index gained 49 points or 2.8 percent to close at 1,835.47.

BPI Trade said in its weekly report that the Gokongwei firms JG Summit and Digital Telecommunications Inc. were among the stellar performers. San Miguel Corp. was also in the limelight after some P6 billion worth of its shares were sold in huge cross sales last week.

Speculation was that the SMC Retirement Fund bought shares of pension SURGING, B4

By Clarissa S. Batino

HOPEWELL Crown Infrastructure Inc., the private group tasked to rehabilitate and operate the South Luzon Expressway, is in talks with six foreign groups interested in participating in the P10-billion upgrade of the Slex.

Joel Bañares, president of Hopewell Crown, said the company was discussing possible ventures with Egis of France, Leighton of Australia, Cise of Spain, MTD Capital of Malaysia, American firm Transcore and SNC Lavalin of Canada.

Egis and Leighton are also partners of Benpres Corp. in Manila North Tollways Corp. Cise, MTD and Transcore are all

tollway operators in their respective countries.

"We are in various stages of negotiation with the foreign groups but all have a high level of interest. The Slex is a very viable project. We want to be able to choose a strategic partner within the year," Bañares said in an interview.

Bañares was finance undersecretary during the Estrada administration in charge of the coun-

try's foreign borrowings.

He said Metro Pacific Corp. had approached the group but that the discussion was nothing serious.

"I think Metro Pacific is focusing first on the Skyway project, which also needs attention. The group approached us after much had been written about their interest in the Slex," said the Hopewell Crown official.

First Pacific Co. Ltd, parent firm of Metro Pacific, is keen on rehabilitating Skyway Corp. First Pacific managing head Manuel Pangilinan said the group also wanted to take part in the upgrade and link-up of the South Luzon road all the way to the

Batangas port.

Bañares said Hopewell would eventually select one or two from the six foreign groups to become its strategic partner. Hopewell owns 80 percent of South Luzon Tollway Corp., a joint venture with Philippine National Construction Corp.

The group of George Go, through Crown Equities Inc., used to own 90 percent of Hopewell Crown but ceded early this year 60 percent of its stake to Northeast Development Acquisitions Corp. The company is backed by low-key Filipino investors who would rather remain

6 FOREIGN-B10

Vehicle assemblers cut sales target by 12%

By Ronnel W. Domingo

WITH only a quarter left in the year, local vehicle assemblers have slashed their total sales forecast by 12.4 percent to 87,600 units from 100,000 units due to concerns over the economic situation and the influx of imported used vehicles.

Total industry sales slid by 7.6 percent in the first nine months to 64,523 units from 69,858 units in the same period in 2003.

Speaking for the Chamber of Automobile Manufacturers of the Philippines and the Truck Manufacturers Association (TMA), Elizabeth Lee said the move was made despite an earlier expectation that sales would improve after the elections last May.

Lee, who is president of TMA, said the local automotive indus-

try was positively linked with the national economy and that they move in the same direction.

She said that while the country may not yet be in a fiscal crisis, the sentiment is down and businesses were holding off on spending.

Lee said assemblers and dealers have been trying to entice buyers with promotions, especially through financing perks.

The official added that vehicle sales would pick up in the last quarter as it generally did, but it would not hit the original target of 100,000 units.

Campi and TMA kept the target of selling 33,000 units of passenger cars but scaled down the 67,000-unit projection for commercial vehicles to 54,600 units—a decrease of 18.5 percent.

VEHICLE-B10

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

China factor
(2005)



Effect of China slowdown but with Japan and US acceleration

Effect of simultaneous slowdown in China, Japan and US

| | Changes in: | | Changes in: | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | GDP growth (percentage points) | Trade Balance (\$ billion) | GDP growth (percentage points) | Trade Balance (\$ billion) |
| Korea | -0.12 | -0.3 | -0.89 | -1.28 |
| Singapore | 0.11 | 0.02 | -1.01 | -0.25 |
| Indonesia | 0.57 | 0.06 | -0.49 | -4.38 |
| Malaysia | 0.57 | 0.06 | -0.74 | -0.61 |
| Thailand | 0.12 | 0.08 | -0.40 | -0.37 |
| Philippines | 0.27 | 0.02 | -0.67 | -0.65 |

Source: Asian Development Bank

A SLOWDOWN in China's economy is expected to have varying degrees of effect on several countries, including the Philippines, which is experiencing a growing trade relation with the former. Although the Philippines will still grow even if the Chinese economy contracts, a simultaneous slowdown in China, Japan and the United States will impact negatively on the country's growth.

Maricar O. Tolosa, PDI Research



The bus line and the bankers

(Plus, a few words on the educational qualities of merienda)

Mr. Lejano sat jaded and impatient in the corner. With him, fifty hard-nosed veteran bus drivers, conductors, and ticket inspectors. They normally spent their days inside tons of diesel-propelled metal, crawling through the traffic-fume laden streets of the metropolis. None of them relished the idea of being gathered together that day for, of all things, a seminar.

But orders were orders. And not being inclined to disobey, Mr. Lejano and his companions settled for grudging compliance instead.

It was around this point that we stepped into the room.

We were a team of trainers from iBank's Center for Learning. Our days were spent giving talks to bank executives, preparing training programs, and other developmental activities. Common ground, at that moment, was as rare as an empty seat on an MRT train during rush hour.

Prior to this moment, the only words we had ever shared with bus drivers like Mr. Lejano were

"Para po sa tabi" or "Manong bayad po" or perhaps at most "Pakibaba po ako sa Crossing."

But our client, the owner of the bus line, asked us if we could help train his people. If we could smooth out the rough edges in their work attitude, help them work as a team and deliver better service. We were to help them see their job as something more than a means to make money. In a day, we were expected to make them fall in love with their work.

We resorted to what we considered our top secret ice breaker: snack packs.

Nothing fancy, truth be told. Sandwiches, chips, biscuits, fruit juice.

But sip by sip and crumb by crumb, the room began to warm up.

What they had all assumed would be a lecture was instead a dialogue. It didn't take us long to understand

the frustration brought about by frivolous traffic ordinances and a daily diet of carbon monoxide. For their part, they saw how commuters would be rightfully indignant if a bus swerved irreverently in pursuit of more passengers.

The day progressed and through our battery of activities and exercises (and lunch of course!), they went from not caring whose toes they stepped on, to slipping into others' shoes. They weren't griping about problems. They were exploring solutions.

The session drew to a close, but not their enthusiasm. They eagerly posed for pictures, thanked us for our time, and looked forward to the next day.

(Any bank can give you interest, but how many are truly interested in you and your business? If this doesn't sound like the kind of relationship you share with your bank, do give us at iBank a try. We have a snack pack or two waiting for you.)



**PREVENTING
STROKE
HEART ATTACK
SUDDEN DEATH**

DBP urged to earmark P1B for Seipi suppliers

By Ronnel W. Domingo

A GROUP of semiconductor and electronics firms is in talks with the Development Bank of the Philippines for a P1-billion fund for the development of small enterprises that support the electronics sector.

Ernie B. Santiago, executive director of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries of the Philippines Inc., said his group was working on a possible partnership with the DBP. The group is asking the DBP to "lock in" to Seipi's allied industries a billion out of the P17 billion earmarked for lending to small and medium enterprises.

Santiago said the group had committed to provide the direction and leadership in developing its members' suppliers, which cover a diverse range of businesses.

"It is up to the bank to draw up a program on how to extend this lending facility to Seipi suppliers," Santiago said.

He explained that the DBP would have to evaluate first the financing needs and payment habits of interested parties.

For its part, Seipi had identified the following for implementation: Survey of the financing needs and payment habits of suppliers by the Association of Seipi Finance Executives; holding of a seminar for interested parties by the Association of Seipi Associate and Affiliate Members; and identification of the financial requirement of the intended beneficiaries by the Association of Seipi Purchasing Managers.

In April, Trade Secretary Cesar V. Purisma said the government had prepared a road map for SME de-

velopment, focusing on providing funds for startups and for venture capital.

At the same time, Purisma urged financial institutions to create a credit bureau that would serve as a clearing house for loan information to SMEs.

The trade chief said the road map reflected the market and technical needs of the various sub-sectors of SMEs. He said it also defined the efforts and improvements of existing SME programs.

Purisma said one of the components of the framework was to set up and strengthen industry centers for processed food, furniture, inter-regional alliance, packaging development, agro-fisheries and marine industry development.

He added that the Department of Trade and Industry was hoping to adopt the best-practice model where SMEs would benchmark themselves against those who were performing well.

He also noted that there was a slowdown in direct lending to SMEs from P233 million in December 2002 to P227 million in June 2003.

Transco completes Leyte-Bohol link-up

THE NATIONAL Transmission Corp. (Transco) recently completed the P700-million Leyte-Bohol Interconnection Project, which is expected to further boost the reliability of power supply in Central Visayas.

Transco president Alan T. Ortiz said the project, funded by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), was designed to provide an additional 260 circuit kilometers of 138-kilovolt transmission lines and 130 megawatt-ampere substation capacity in the Visayas.

The transmission lines now have the

capability to transport 100 megawatts of power, up from the previous 40 MW, Ortiz said.

The project included the upgrading of a transmission substation in Ubay town to 100 megawatt-ampere. Ortiz said this was enough to meet Bohol's power requirements in the next 10 years. He expressed confidence that the assurance of a reliable power supply "will augur well for the entry of more investments to and expansion of businesses in Bohol."

Local officials and business leaders of Bohol lauded the

completion of the interconnection project, saying the "link-up is a vital component in the preservation of the natural beauty of this tourist destination."

Bohol Gov. Erico Aumentado said that since the project would bring in "clean energy" generated from geothermal plants in nearby Leyte, it would "boost the province's bid to

become the home environmentally responsible electricity."

PREMIER LCD PROJECTOR

• 1,100 ANSI lumens
• Picture-in-picture
• Remote mouse
• Laser pointer
• Compact
• Lightweight
• 2.6kg

PJ2500

\$700

INFINITE SYSTEMS Call for Price Details: 892-9973 to 77

AS LOW AS P300 FREE ESTIMATE

FAX REPAIR

ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS

KING'S CUT THIS AD AND AVOID OF A 10% DISCOUNT

894-2309
843-6630
843-6882

894-7883
411-6380

NOW AVAILABLE

TRADERS QUALITY PRODUCT

SALES, SERVICE, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE

50, 100, 125, 200, 300, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 8000, 10000, 15000, 20000, 30000, 40000, 50000, 60000, 80000, 100000, 150000, 200000, 300000, 400000, 500000, 600000, 800000, 1000000, 1500000, 2000000, 3000000, 4000000, 5000000, 6000000, 8000000, 10000000, 15000000, 20000000, 30000000, 40000000, 50000000, 60000000, 80000000, 100000000, 150000000, 200000000, 300000000, 400000000, 500000000, 600000000, 800000000, 1000000000, 1500000000, 2000000000, 3000000000, 4000000000, 5000000000, 6000000000, 8000000000, 10000000000, 15000000000, 20000000000, 30000000000, 40000000000, 50000000000, 60000000000, 80000000000, 100000000000, 150000000000, 200000000000, 300000000000, 400000000000, 500000000000, 600000000000, 800000000000, 1000000000000, 1500000000000, 2000000000000, 3000000000000, 4000000000000, 5000000000000, 6000000000000, 8000000000000, 10000000000000, 15000000000000, 20000000000000, 30000000000000, 40000000000000, 50000000000000, 60000000000000, 80000000000000, 100000000000000, 150000000000000, 200000000000000, 300000000000000, 400000000000000, 500000000000000, 600000000000000, 800000000000000, 1000000000000000, 1500000000000000, 2000000000000000, 3000000000000000, 4000000000000000, 5000000000000000, 6000000000000000, 8000000000000000, 10000000000000000, 15000000000000000, 20000000000000000, 30000000000000000, 40000000000000000, 50000000000000000, 60000000000000000, 80000000000000000, 100000000000000000, 150000000000000000, 200000000000000000, 300000000000000000, 400000000000000000, 500000000000000000, 600000000000000000, 800000000000000000, 1000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000, 2000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000000000000000, 10000000000000000000000000000000000000, 15000000000000000000000000000000000000, 20000000000000000000000000000000000000, 30000000000000000000000000000000000000, 40000000000000000000000000000000000000, 50000000000000000000000000000000000000, 60000000000000000000000000000000000000, 80000000000000000000000000000000000000, 100000000000000000000000000000000000000, 150000000000000000000000000000000000000, 200000000000000000000000000000000000000, 300000000000000000000000000000000000000, 400000000000000000000000000000000000000, 500000000000000000000000000000000000000, 600000000000000000000000000000000000000, 800000000000000000000000000000000000000, 1000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 1500000000000000000000000000000000000000, 2000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 3000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 4000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 5000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 6000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 8000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 100, 15000000000000000000000000000000000000000, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 8000, 100, 15000, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 8000, 100, 15000, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 8000, 100, 15000, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000, 6000, 8000, 1000000

Banks given up to end-2004 to sell CTFs

By Doris C. Dumiao

THE MONETARY Board has given banks until the end of this year to shift from common trust funds (CTFs) to unit investment trust

funds (UITFs).

This means the banking system can still offer new CTFs until end of this year, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Deputy Governor for bank supervision and examination Al-

berto Reyes said the extension of the deadline for the complete shift from CTFs to UITFs was in response to a petition submitted by the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines (TOAP).

In an earlier ruling, the Monetary Board ordered banks to stop accepting new investments in CTFs starting Oct. 1 as it wanted the banking system to shift to the new instrument which, it said, was a better product.

The BSP said UITF would more realistically reflect the underlying market values and, therefore, investors would be properly guided in making investment decisions. Also, trust departments, acting independently from the bank proper, will be in a better position to clarify that funds pooled into UITFs are separate from

the bank's main portfolio and that the risks involved in such investments are greater.

Under the rules for UITFs, the pool of funds can only be placed in liquid investments and tradable financial instruments. Tradability is premised on the existence of a readily and regularly available two-way quote.

As such, funds pooled into UITFs can not be directly relet by the banks but could be placed in equities, bonds and high-grade commercial papers which are traded in the market.

In a separate interview, TOAP president Ador Abrogena estimated that banks would need about six months to set up their UITFs in place and two years to fully unwind existing CTFs.

Abrogena said banks welcomed the

exemption of the UITFs from the single borrower's limit as well as the lending restrictions to directors, officers, stockholders and related interests since the new product would be separated from the bank proper. However, he said there would be some difficulty in shifting from CTFs to UITFs, particularly with regards to high-quality loans currently under the CTFs.

He said there was so far no system that could facilitate the standardized conversion of outstanding lending using the CTFs into UITFs.

Existing long-term investments in CTFs, he said, made the problem more complicated.

"Some investors do not want to move their investments," Abrogena said.

KOREA TRADE CENTER MANILA
INVITES PHILIPPINE IMPORTERS-DISTRIBUTORS-BUYERS
TO MEET WITH THE
KOREAN TRADE MISSION FROM DAEGU
MINDANAO BALLROOM- WESTIN PLAZA HOTEL-MANILA
FRIDAY ~ 15 OCTOBER 2004

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. A-SUNG PRECISION INDUSTRY | AGRI/INDUST. SPRAYERS- HI PRESSURE GENERATED, VARIOUS TYPES : KNAPSACK, TRAVELING ETC. |
| 2. BOOHO CO. LTD. | FUNCTIONAL OFFICE CHAIRS AND COMPONENTS |
| 3. COZY TEXTILE | TEXTILE: POLYESTER JACQUARD SCREEN PRINTS |
| 4. KUK SHIN FILTER CO. (DAEBU) | AUTOMOTIVE OIL FILTERS AND AIR CLEANERS |
| 5. EUN SAN CO. | GOLF BALL DISPENSER TOOL AND EQUIPMENT |
| 6. EYE WIN OPTICAL CO. | OPTICAL FRAME & SUNGLASS: TITANIUM GRADE |
| 7. GOLDMILL | FRUIT & VEGGIE BLENDERS, MIXERS, GRINDERS |
| 8. JAMES VISION CO. LTD. | OPTICAL FRAMES, W/NANO METAL AROMA, SCENT MAGNETIC CLIP-ON & CAP-ATTACHED SUNSHIELD |
| 9. KOREA INSAM HANAWON | KOREAN RED GINSENG : POWDER, TABLET, PILL |
| 10. KORYO ELECTRIC WIRE CO. LTD. | POWER CABLES-FROM MEDIUM TO HIGH VOLTAGE |
| 11. KYUNGNAM TEXTILE CO. LTD. | TEXTILE - TRICOT FABRICS AND DOUBLE RASCHEL, VELBOA, MESH PRINT, SUEDE, MESH AND GOLAIR |
| 12. NANOFILM CO. LTD. | HEAT AND UV-SHIELDING FILM FOR AUTOMOTIVE AND FOR RESIDENTIAL, BUILDING APPLICATIONS |
| 13. SANGDONG INDUSTRIAL CO. LTD. | TEXTILE FOR GARMENTS, BAGS AND STUFF TOYS: VELVET, SUEDE, ALBA, VELBOA, MESH & RYLEX |
| 14. SHINHAN JUNK CO. | USED CAR PARTS : BODY AND ENGINE PARTS |
| 15. WOOSEOG PRECISION MACHINERY | EPS/EPP/EPE VARIOUS SHAPE MOLDING MACHINE |

FOR INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS, PLEASE CALL THE KOREA TRADE CENTER (KOTRA)
TELS: 893-1183, 893-3244, 750-1788, CEL: 0918-9247172 E-MAIL: kotra2@mozcoms.com
FAX: 817-3369 ATTN: MR. CHARLIE ALVEYRA, MS. JOVY TANO, MS. CHRISTIN NORONIO



A New Age of healing has arrived.

Acupuncture / Acupressure

Other services: Abdomen Vibration Therapy and Ear Acupoints Therapy

Holistic Program (Executive Check-up)
Designed to pre-empt or determine if a patient is at risk of developing a medical condition, and pinpoint the exact medical attention required. Medical doctors are fully backed-up by modern equipment, so the patient is assured of a highly accurate and reliable diagnosis. After each executive check-up, clients can avail of alternative consultations with Traditional Chinese Medical doctors to complement a holistic approach to total health care and maintenance.

Adjudged as the:
2003 Year-ender
Consumer's Choice Award
Top Acupuncture and
Acupressure Center

2004 15th Asia-Pacific
Excellence Award
Outstanding Achievement
and Acupoints Center

2004 National Consumers
Quality Award
Top Acupuncture and
Acupressure Specialist Center

Free initial consultation. For your convenience,
please call our hotline for reservations.
05 361 83 4718 ext. 722
031-9972-834-5659 031-4793

SynergyMed
2317 Divisoria Street, 2nd Floor, Divisoria, Manila
Orangutan Center, Pasig City, Philippines
E-mail: www.synergymed.com

Finance says GIR level still safe

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance said there was no plan yet to increase the country's foreign borrowings, despite the drop in the country's foreign exchange reserves to below the \$16-billion benchmark.

Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto said the government would not make a move as long as the gross international reserves of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas stays within the target of \$14 billion to \$15 billion this year.

"Even the BSP said the GIR was still at a comfortable level," said Recto, who is in charge of the country's foreign borrowings.

Last September, the GIR slightly dipped to a seven-month low of \$15.91 billion from \$16 billion in August, mainly due to the servicing of public sector debts.

GIR, composed of the BSP's foreign currency holdings, gold reserves, special drawing rights from multilateral institutions and foreign investments, measures the economy's ability to service its foreign exchange requirement.

The declining GIR was one of the reasons behind the BSP's proposal for the government to increase its foreign borrowings for next year.

The BSP proposed that the national government's foreign borrowings be raised to 40 percent of its total borrowing requirements for 2005.

The borrowing mix for next year was initially set by the Development Budget and Coordinating Committee at 78.22, in favor of domestic sources.

The DOF wanted to limit foreign borrowings to protect the country's already precarious financial condition from foreign exchange volatility.

Quem sera sera! "I Can, I Must, I Will inspire of the Environment"

Management Association of the Philippines and SMART present

3rd MAP International CEO Conference

Conference Theme
"Survive and Excel in Turbulent Times"

11 November 2004 Thursday
Rizal Ballroom, Makati Shangri-La



Speaker:
Mr. MARTIN P. LORENZO
Chair
Pancake House



Speaker:
Mr. CECILIO K. PEDRO
President
Lamoian Corporation

SESSION ON "SMEs: ONWARD AND UPWARD"

This session will present the opportunities, challenges and strategies of SMEs (small and medium enterprises which employ 98% of the workforce but generate 32% value added) in existing and turbulent times. Given the backdrop painted by the earlier sessions, what are the Key Success Factors of smaller number firms? How can smaller businesses, which do not have the luxury of bigger infrastructures and access to funding and resources, build alliances with bigger firms and financial institutions to ensure business continuity? For those that graduate from small to medium or large, what strategies are employed to successfully manage the transition?

Other Sessions:

- SURVIVE AND EXCEL IN TURBULENT TIMES
- OPPORTUNITIES AROUND TURBULENCE
- NOTWITHSTANDING
- CREATING A BUILT-TO-LAST FIRM
- BEING A 21ST CENTURY LEADER
- "WRAP-UP AND NEXT STEPS: Identify the Critical Few Objectives of the Executive Team"

Other Speakers

- Mr. ERIC RAMON I. BAYAN
BVP and COO, Abnate Equity Ventures
- Mr. JOAQUIN L. ARAMBULO
Business Productivity Advisor, Microsoft Philippines
- Dr. FRANKLIN C. ASHBY, Author of "Embracing Excellence" and the soon to be released "Back on Track" (USA)
- Mr. HENRY T. CO
President, Ford Motor Company Philippines
- Mr. RICO HIZON
Broadcaster, Brash Broadcasting Corporation (Singapore)
- Mr. ANUPAM PRAKASH
Asia Pacific Global Sourcing Leader
Hewlett Associates (India)
- Mr. TONY TAN CAKTONG
President and CEO, Jollibee Foods Corporation
- Dr. RICHARD S. WELLINS
Senior Vice President for Global Marketing,
Development Dimensions Inc. (USA)
- Mr. SIMON BERESFORD-WYLLIE
SVP, Nolta Asia Pacific (Singapore)

SPONSORS: List in program...

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| DIAMOND | Microsoft |
| GOLD | BusinessWorld |
| SILVER | AIM |
| Bronze Plus | IBM |
| Bronze | Hewlett |

This Conference is open to the public.



For Reservations:
Please contact the MAP Secretariat at
mapsec@globalnet.com.ph
751-1148 to 52 or
Conference Committee Chair
Francis G. del Rosario at
cdelro@netnet.com.ph

Infinity
Slim Notebook

NEW

Infinity JW2

- Intel Celerino Mobile Technology including Intel Pentium M processor 1.5GHz
- Intel 855GMF and ICH4 chipsets
- 256MB DDR SDRAM up to 1024MB
- 12.1" TFT LCD WXGA
- 64MB Shared Video Memory
- DVD/CDRW combo drive
- 40GB Harddisk drive
- One Cardbus Type II slot, One CF socket
- Y-92 56Kbps data/fax modem
- 10/100 BaseT LAN on board
- One external monitor port
- One firewire/mic-in jack
- Two USB ports 2.0
- Wireless 802.11b
- One IEEE 1394 (4-pin) port
- 1.8 lbs., 296.8x205x33-37mm dimension
- 2.7 hours battery life
- 1.5 hour rapid charge / 3.5-hour charge in use
- MS Windows XP Home Edition

Php 89,900.00

With Free Carrying Bag, Optical Mouse and Webcam

Price quoted is cash basis only
4 Year Limited Warranty

Exclusively Available at:

- COLUMBIA COMPUTER SUPERSTORE - METRO MANILA BRANCHES**
- SM MEGAMALL 433818 635880 SM NORTH EDSA 609141 PARK SQUARE 881704 ROBINSONS MANILA 62455/725247633
VIRRAMALL-QH 7227006 7227143 ALIBALL 427867 STA. LUCIA GRAND MALL 68173174 PACO JERONIMO 6061
CHALLENGER COMPUTER FESTIVAL MALL 806475 DISCOVERY COMPUTER- 88 SOUTH MALL 801517634 88
- OCTAGON-COLUMBIA COMPUTER SUPERSTORE PROVINCIAL BRANCHES**
- SM BACOR (043) 1110844/091147 SM BAGO (074) 447541 SM CEBU (032) 2873546 CEBU-LAHUG (032) 27 85642 2310679
SM LONOR (043) 300 45276 BACOLOD (033) 43006 DADUPAN (074) 5082310131 DUMAGUETE (036) 422 309 2231414
PALAWAN (048) 4341027 ZAMBOANGA (067) 30197-19400 SM LUCENA (042) 37 010 CAGAYAN DE ORO (0877) 25631172903
Davao MONTEVERDE (081) 2543379 Davao MAOSAYSAY (082) 2741004 GENERAL SANTOS (085) 82723274
TACLOBAN (064) 422089 375113 CAGAHATUAN-MEGACENTER MALL (044) 814114 CAGAHATUAN-BAYARLINA HWY (044) 8342084
LEGASPI (067) 8207/84 82007 SAN FERNANDO LA UNION (077) 88141111 TALAC BAYARLINA ANGLES (052) 222501
SARANGANI (063) 2271117/227234 LIPA (043) 800000/800003 VIGAN (077) 77731-8 BANTUAG (036) 41 000247-8
TUGUEGARAO (076) 4487584434 OZAMIS (095) 21456263 COTABATO (084) 7154101 SUGAN CITY BACOLOD CITY
ILOILO CITY DAVAO CITY-SAJADA DAVAO CITY-MATHA DAVAO DEL SUR-DIGOS CITY KORONADAL CITY(MARDEL)



ICTSI gets CSX-ed up

THE COUNTRY'S very own ICTSI has been shortlisted as one of the eight global firms qualified to bid for the worldwide port assets of US rail giant CSX, according to a report of the South China Morning Post.

The Hong Kong paper reported Thursday that International Container Terminal Services Inc. will submit a joint bid with one of the seven other suitors, which include such heavyweights as Hutchison, Wharf, and Singapore's PSA Corp.

Clingroup of New York is said to be conducting the bidding, to be concluded next month, in behalf of CSX.

CSX Corp., whose former CEO is now US Treasury Secretary John Snow, has put on the block the entire array of container terminals operated by its subsidiary, CSX World Terminals, in Hong Kong, China, Australia, Dominican Republic, Germany, Russia, United Kingdom, United States and Venezuela.

CSX World Terminals reported \$235 million in revenues in 2002, excluding the Dominican port that opened only last December. Bids could be in excess of \$1 billion, according to the Hong Kong paper.

When reached, ICTSI chair Enrique Razon Jr. refused to even comment on the accuracy of the news report, since apparently all prospective bidders have signed up to a non-disclosure proviso.

But according to speculator Señor Bob O. de la Yca, ICTSI is particularly interested in the Venezuela and Dominican Republic operations, given its foothold in Latin America and the Spanish heritage of Razon (notwithstanding his Lebanese looks) and other Kathia board members.

That last sentence, although maybe true, happens to be a joke.

Seriously now, ICTSI's two foreign ports in Brazil and Poland have already given the listed company a 28-percent boost in total revenues in the second quarter of the year, more than offsetting a decline in Philippine operations.

More specifically, the Poland and Brazil operations contributed P177.83 million in net income from January to June 2004, a turnaround from the more than P170-million loss the foreign operations registered from the first half of 2003.

The Baltic seaport, incidentally, was acquired only in the second half of 2003, but "(its) performance has exceeded all our expectations," especially with Poland joining the European Union in May, an exuberant Razon told this year's shareholders' meeting.

ICTSI disclosed in the second quarter of 2004 that the weakening peso "gave rise to a negative adjustment to cash of P75 million," but that trend should be reversed by the second half of the year given that the dollar revenues especially from the Baltic seaport would already account for about 50 percent of the company's total earnings.

For the first half of 2004, ICTSI reported earnings per share of P0.276, as against P0.135 for the same period last year. It closed Friday at P5.10, as against a 52-week low of P2.75.

Royal glitterati

THE COUNTRY'S top socialites will have a rare occasion to dress in their finest gowns and presumably even display their dazzling pieces of jewelry.

The occasion is the Oct. 25 fundraising dinner at Shangri-La Makati

COCKTALES

Victor G. Agustin



with Princess Caroline of Monaco, who is visiting the country to pursue her worldwide charitable works.

Unknown to many, the daughter of the late Princess Grace has been supporting communities around the world, including a project for Manila's street children under her Amade Philippine Foundation and the Volante Foundation of French national Dominique Lemay.

Tickets for the gala dinner, with an Inno Sotto fashion show to boot, starts at P10,000, escalating to as much as P50,000, depending on where one prefers to sit.

And for those feeling magnanimous, a donation of P1 million "and upwards" would guarantee a seat at the head table with the visiting princess, who will be escorted to the affair by her husband, Prince Ernst of Hanover.

The organizing committee itself is local royalty personified, with chair Marietta Santos, Imelda Cojuangco, Chito Madrigal-Collantes, Bea Zobel and Mary Prieto leading the good breeding brigade.

The lifestyle press has been invited to the royal affair, but publicist Anne Ringor is pleading with the intransigent editors and columnists not to wander off and press on Ms Cojuangco about actress Gretchen Barretto. Whoops, that's another story.

Ready, AIM, fire

IT LOOKS like Metrobank director and former AIM president Felipe Alfonso will have to slug it out in court as a defendant of a P28.5-million bouncing checks complaint along with his "agent," Port car accessories dealer Anthony Bitanga.

After Metrobank's unexpectedly called off the twice-postponed mediation meeting, the law firm of Nagrampa Young and Partners filed on Friday an estafa complaint against Alfonso and Bitanga before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

We will stop here, since the complaint has already been lodged and we do not want to be accused of trying to stampede the fiscal into a favored direction. (For background, see Cocktales of Oct. 1, 2004.)

According to the grapevine, Bitanga has another problem closer, literally, to home. The Corinthian Gardens house that he lives in had actually been rented out in the name of another party, and the check payments issued by this party, said to be a female friend of Bitanga's father, have also started bouncing.

The Corinthian Gardens house happens to be owned by the family of gold columnist Arsenic Laurel.

Heard through the grapevine

SAN MIGUEL Corp. has denied that it acquired a large block of company shares from the market on Wednesday.

But a San Miguel spokesperson was not sure if the written denial also encompassed the San Miguel Retirement Fund, which reportedly made the acquisition.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com)

Gov't keeps 4-5% inflation target

By Doris C. Dumiao

THE GOVERNMENT is sticking to its inflation target of 4 to 5 percent for 2004-2006 despite the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' own admission that this would be exceeded this year and next year due to skyrocketing oil prices.

This year, for instance, the inflation rate is seen to average at

5.4 percent, but the target range would be kept nevertheless, BSP officer-in-charge Arnado Suratos said.

"The 4 to 5 percent target represents the level of inflation that the government wants to achieve to promote consumption spending and business investments in line with the economy's growth objectives," Suratos said.

"While this is the desired level of inflation, the BSP recognizes that the nature of the ongoing inflation process is driven largely by supply-side pressures, particularly the sharp uptrend in oil prices, increase in transport and power costs, as well as the constraints on specific food products

such as fish and meat," he said.

Suratos said the BSP's forecast of 5.4 percent for the year was based on the 4.8-percent average so far during the first nine months of the year, the outlook on oil prices for the rest of the year, as well as other assumptions on the fiscal sector and economic growth.

Sentinel
C.B.T. Condominium
60 West Ave., Q.C.
Tels.: +63 2 373.97.97
416.52.18 to 19
Fax: +63 2 373.47.50
sales@sentinel.com.ph

bread crate

SHARP
ELECTRONIC CASH REGISTER
Easy Operation that's Easily Affordable

ER-A440
Dual tape, Approximate 20 Standard Receipts, 1000 Standard Rolls, Memory Printing, Automatic Tax Calculation, Full Accounting Report Functions, Tanning Mode, Drawer with 5 bill and 8 coin compartments.

XE-A101
Single tape, Thermal, 8 compartments, 20 piece lock-up (PLU), Locking cash drawer with 3 bill & coin compartments.

Distributed by **ASTECH PENSIGN DISTRIBUTORS INC.**

for dealership application please call us at Tel. 002.

MANILA (02) 4387-1000
CEBU (032) 344-1188
DMMO (092) 271-0586

TIME IS GOLD.

Why spend more time on healthcare than you have to? Maxicare provides efficient, hassle-free admission and bill processing in over 300 hospitals and clinics nationwide. That's healthcare that gets you back to work in no time.

on log on to www.maxicare.com

New financing scheme for MRT-7 set

By Michelle V. Remo

THE PROPONENT of Line 7 of the Metro Railway Transit (MRT-7) system, which will connect North Edsa and Butaca, has come up with an improved financial design for the project after the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) asked for a proposal that will not require fi-

naning from the cash-strapped government.

Universal LRT Corp., the private-sector consortium acting as proponent of the MRT-7 and which is headed by former finance secretary Roberto de Ocampo, has submitted to the Department of Transportation and Communication its revised proposal.

Transport: A Key Link for Agriculture and Food



14-16 October 2004 • World Trade Center Metro Manila (WTCCM)

Features:

- TRADE EXHIBITS • TECHNICAL SEMINARS • LIVESTOCK DISPLAY
- GREENHOUSE STRUCTURES • COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS
- RETAIL SELLING • SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Settings: PRP'S PAVILION and PHILIPPINE INVENTORS PAVILION



5th International Food Processing/Packaging and Products Exhibition

For inquiries, please contact the organizer: FOUNDATION FOR RESOURCE LINKAGE AND DEVELOPMENT, Inc. 3rd Old Administrative Building, 11th Complex, Ayala City, Tel. (02) 8886000, 8886001, 8886052, 8886059 Fax. (02) 8886051, 8886054

AGRI-LINK

11th International Agribusiness Exhibition and Seminars

Sponsors:

DOTC: No open skies deal with US

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE PHILIPPINES would continue to renegotiate a lopsided air service agreement with the United States even after the open skies deal with the US supposedly was signed Oct. 1, accord-
ing to a report Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said in a speech Oct. 10.
Rumsfeld said the US administration was concerned the open skies agreement with the Philippines was not effective.

"There is no open skies (policy) as far as the Philippine government is concerned," Mendoza told reporters. "We (will) continue to push for renegotiation."

He said the foreign affairs department had been tasked to take the lead in opening a new round of air talks with the US.

Mendoza said the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) had filed a petition with its US counterpart to reopen air talks. The CAB officials still had not received a response.

The Philippines wants the US to grant reciprocal rights to its carriers, the transport chief said.

The Philippines forged an open skies agreement with the US during Martial Law, committing the country to totally liberalize its airports for the unrestricted entry of US carriers to and from the Philippines.

The treaty, signed in the early 1980s, cancelled regulations pertaining to flight frequencies, seating capacity and types of aircraft.

The local carriers said the deal was kopsided because it allowed American carriers unlimited access to the Philippines, while RP airlines enjoyed no such rights in the United States.

The 1982 Air Transport Agreement between the Philippines and the US was supposed to take effect on Oct. 1, 2003. The agreement provided a one-year period for any of the parties to renegotiate or even abrogate the deal, but no concrete action was taken.

The Philippines is pushing for a "real open skies" policy, under which Philippine carriers could also fly freely to any destination in the U.S.

Local carriers cannot fly, for example, from Manila to Hawaii, then on to another destination in the US like San Francisco. This activity, which the US government defined as "cabotage," violates the US constitution.

Local carriers like Philippine Airlines also opposed an accelerated liberalization of air traffic rights as it would prejudice the operations of the local industry. Foreign airlines could compete more aggressively by offering lower rates.

But Mendoza said the country would have to deregulate its aviation industry gradually to protect its carriers but at the same time encourage more trade and tourism.

"Our goal is progressive liberalization," said Mendoza.

A gradual opening up of the air industry would be done through the encouragement of constructive competition, increase in traffic rights, promotion of missionary routes, and granting of incentives for investment in alien native gateways.

"The modernization and expansion of airports, as well as the liberalization policy would make air transportation in the Philippines a strong partner in the decentralization and equalization of progress throughout the country to benefit all of our people, instead of just a small sector," Mendoza said.

Sy, Cuenca land dispute far from over

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE PROPERTY dispute between former Marcos associate Rodolfo Cuenca and mall tycoon Henry Sy Sr. has come to a head after a Makati regional trial court recently voided a bank foreclosure order on the parcels of property and its subsequent sale to the Sy group in the 1980s.

Quencia, who has since been claiming ownership of the disputed pieces of property, told the INQUIRER that his lawyers were carefully studying a case they would file against the SM Group to compel the mall firm to deposit all income generated from SM Baguio and resort hotel Taal Vista Lodge in Tagaytay.

In 1984, the Development Bank of the Philippines foreclosed on the properties owned and managed by Cuenca through the old Resort Hotels Corp., for allegedly failing to settle P134 million in loans with the bank.

When asked to comment, the lawyers of the SM Group referred the inquirer to the Development Bank of the Philippines, saying that the institution knew more about the developments in the case.

A DBP official meanwhile said that the bank complied with all the requirements before they foreclosed on the Resort Hotel Corp. properties. The official said that the bank had recently filed petition with the Court of Appeals to reverse the Makati RTC ruling.

Last Feb. 13, the Makati RTC ruled that the foreclosure on RHC's property assets were void or without effect.

New financing ...

From page 185

Neda Director General Romulo Neri said his office was waiting for the DOTC to submit the proposal to the Neda for evaluation. He added that Neda was hopeful the improved proposal would fully meet the requirements of the Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) to make some progress in the MRT-7 project, which is one of the major infrastructure development priorities of the Arroyo administration.

Under the original financial design of the MTR, the government will be required to shoulder about P100 million a year in the first nine years the mass transport system's operations because revenue from ridership will initially be insufficient to cover for its expenditure requirements.

The original proposal also stated that MRT will pay the government for its advances starting in the 10th year of its operation. The consortium will be the one responsible to build, operate and maintain the MRT-7 for 25 years, after which it will be transferred to the national government. The proposal also said that the consortium will be the one to look for financing for the project, which is estimated at \$1.2 billion (not \$600 million as earlier reported).

Neda said the ICC, which is responsible for approving government projects, gave a final pass approval of the MRT-7 project last March because it recognized the economic benefit of the project. The ICC, however, requested an improved financial design so that the government would not be financially burdened.

Neri earlier said the Neda-FCC asked the consortium to improve the project's financial design in such a way that it will not have to incur deficits, and therefore no longer require the government to provide financing.

"We were told that the revised proposal submitted to the DOTC is already deficit neutral, and so we are looking forward to evaluating it," Neri said in a telephone interview.

"As soon as the improved proposal gets approval of the ICC, then we expect that construction of the project would start soon," Neri said. "We expect the area connecting N. Edsa and Bulacan to be heavily congested the next couple of years, and so we want M 7 to prevent serious traffic," he added.

| PALM BEACH STOCK EXCHANGE | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------|-------------|
| (As of October 8, 2004) | | | | | |
| STOCKS | OPEN BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES | HIGH BANKS | LOW FINANCIAL SERVICES | CLOSE | VOLUME |
| Assigned Dev Bank Inc. | 3.15 | 3.15 | 2.15 | 8.15 | 18,000 |
| Banco do Rio de Janeiro | 19 | 19 | 16.75 | 19 | 35,400 |
| Bank of the Phil. Islands | 48.5 | 48.5 | 47.5 | 49 | 3,003,700 |
| Chari Banking Corp. | 530 | 530 | 530 | 530 | 1,000 |
| Chicago Savings Bank | 18.25 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 1,000 |
| Fidelity PC Bank Inc. | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 | 1,000 |
| Metrobank Bank & Trust | 28 | 28.5 | 28 | 28.5 | 19,500 |
| Philippine National Bank | 22 | 23.25 | 23 | 23.25 | 9,000 |
| Pillar Savings Bank | 28 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 3,600 |
| Rural Comm. Banking Corp. | 12.75 | 12.75 | 12.75 | 12.75 | 10,000 |
| Savings Bank Corp. | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 65,100 |
| Union Bank of the Phil. | 24 | 24 | 23.75 | 23.75 | 103,300 |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES | | | | | |
| Standard Inc. | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 100,000 |
| Treasury Fund Inc. | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 1,000 |
| Manila Financial Corp. | 24.70 | 24.70 | 24.70 | 24.70 | 1,000 |
| Pot Leasing & Fin. Inc. | 1.35 | 1.35 | 1.34 | 1.34 | 31,000 |
| Sol Life Financial Inc. | 1.75 | 1.75 | 1.75 | 1.75 | 230 |
| COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL | | | | | |
| COMMUNICATION | | | | | |
| AIS-CDN Broadcasting Corp. | 22.25 | 22.25 | 22.25 | 22.25 | 7 |
| Digital Telecom Phils Inc. | 1.52 | 1.52 | 1.51 | 1.52 | 108,430 |
| Globe Telecom Inc. | 1140 | 1140 | 1115 | 1115 | 33 |
| Ipsocore Inc. | 0.47 | 0.47 | 0.47 | 0.47 | 220,000 |
| Island Info and Tech Inc. | 0.047 | 0.0525 | 0.047 | 0.0525 | 3,280,000 |
| ISM Communications Corp. | 0.033 | 0.04 | 0.033 | 0.04 | 50,000 |
| Jerry Telecom Holdings Inc. | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.35 | 1,190,000 |
| Manila Builders Pub. Corp. | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 54,000 |
| Plasma Tel Corp. | 2.75 | 2.75 | 2.85 | 2.7 | 8,240,000 |
| Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co. | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 7,960,000 |
| Transoceanic Globalcom | 1.38 | 1.38 | 1.38 | 1.38 | 20,000 |
| Phil. Del. Tel. Co. | 14.75 | 14.85 | 14.75 | 14.85 | 90,900 |
| Nvantage Corp. | 0.71 | 0.72 | 0.7 | 0.71 | 6,130,000 |
| Pharveco Corp. | 0.012 | 0.014 | 0.012 | 0.014 | 444,800,000 |
| POWER & ENERGY | | | | | |
| Manila Electric Co. A | 16 | 16.25 | 15 | 15.25 | 25,700 |
| Manila Electric Co. B | 24.5 | 24.5 | 24.5 | 24.75 | 132,200 |
| Petron Corp. | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 1,198,000 |
| Sazon Power Corp. | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 125,000 |
| Trigas Asia Oil and Energy | 1.08 | 1.1 | 1.08 | 1.1 | 291,000 |
| TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | | | | | |
| Int'l Container Terminals Svc | 0.32 | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.31 | 1,336,600 |
| Kepel Phils. Marine Inc. | 0.32 | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.33 | 470,900 |
| CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS | | | | | |
| Engineering Equip. Inc. | 0.38 | 0.41 | 0.38 | 0.4 | 5,860,000 |
| Revol. Ind. Center Corp. | 0.57 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 130,000 |
| Samlan Inv. Svcs. Corp. | 0.25 | 0.24 | 0.25 | 0.24 | 2,900,000 |
| Union Cement Corp. | 2.8 | 2.85 | 2.85 | 2.85 | 2,900,000 |
| FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO | | | | | |
| Alaska Milk Corp. | 3.05 | 3.15 | 3.05 | 3.15 | 1,217,000 |
| Greening San Miguel Inc. | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 52,000 |
| Golden Foods Corp. | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.72 | 0.75 | 3,600 |
| PLV Corp. | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.37 | 160,000 |
| Swift Food Inc. | 56 | 56.5 | 56 | 56.5 | 193,500 |
| San Miguel Corp. A | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 1,125,000 |
| San Miguel Corp. B | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 82,000 |
| Universal Robina Corp. | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.29 | 0.3 | 1,400,000 |
| Manila Corp. | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.29 | 0.3 | 1,400,000 |
| HOLDING FIRMS | | | | | |
| Allot-Bin Wedge Co. Inc. | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 2,000 |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg. A | 8.004 | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.004 | 64,000,000 |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg. B | 0.0042 | 0.0042 | 0.0042 | 0.0042 | 8,187,000 |
| Acacia Corp. | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 4,818,000 |
| Adagio Equity Vehicles | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 50 |
| Advance Global Group Inc. | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 50 |
| Avio Intl Holdings Inc. | 0.03 | 0.031 | 0.029 | 0.031 | 5,100,000 |
| A. Soriano Corp. | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 168,000 |
| APC Group Inc. | 0.075 | 0.075 | 0.075 | 0.075 | 12,000,0 |

CURRENCIES

| | October 10, 2004 | | Euro Equivalent | Dollar Equivalent | Peso Equivalent |
|--|------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | Country | Unit | | | |
| | United States | Dollar | 0.813603 | 1.000300 | 56 |
| | Japan | Yen | 0.007321 | 0.008998 | 0 |
| | United Kingdom | Pound | 1.450004 | 1.782209 | 100 |
| | Hong Kong | Dollar | 0.104350 | 0.128256 | 7 |
| | Switzerland | Franc | 0.843873 | 0.781139 | 44 |
| | Canada | Dollar | 0.645461 | 0.793336 | 44 |
| | Singapore | Dollar | 0.483384 | 0.591681 | 33 |
| | Australia | Dollar | 0.591970 | 0.727590 | 40 |
| | Bahrain | Dinar | 2.158214 | 2.652651 | 149 |
| | Saudi Arabia | Rial | 0.216561 | 0.265667 | 15 |
| | Brazil | Dollar | 0.479974 | 0.589936 | 32 |
| | Indonesia | Rupiah | 0.030399 | 0.030140 | 1 |
| | Thailand | Baht | 0.136657 | 0.024173 | 0 |
| | LINE | Dinheiro | 6.221521 | 0.272272 | 15 |
| | Euro | Euro | 1.000000 | 1.226100 | 69 |
| | Argentina | Peso | 0.273710 | 0.336417 | 18 |
| | Chile | Rand | 0.285275 | 0.350531 | 19 |
| | South Africa | Rand | 0.134398 | 0.165168 | 9 |
| | Denmark | Krone | 0.017780 | 0.021829 | 1 |
| | India | Rupiah | 0.214195 | 0.263193 | 4 |
| | Malaysia | Ringgit | 0.272258 | 0.088810 | 5 |
| | Mexico | New Peso | 0.550401 | 0.876498 | 38 |
| | New Zealand | Dollar | 0.000708 | 0.000870 | 0 |
| | Korea | Won | 0.023960 | 0.029944 | 0 |
| | Taiwan | New Dollar | | | |

Surging oil prices

fund Government Service Insurance System (GSIS). "Investors are still focusing on the release of corporate results by the last week of October. Providing support this week is also the positive tax collection in September. However, the market is likely to remain cautious as oil prices trend higher, which rose above \$52 per barrel. The peso remains weak and is still hovering above P56 level and close to the all-time low. These factors will continue to weigh on consumer consumption and may limit corporate earnings. There are fears that higher prices would push inflation higher and may eventually push interest rates higher," BPI Trade said. Vistan said investors might profit after the market's sharp run-up recently. "The market is likely to struggle under the weight of oil as it adds to the uncertainty in the market over earnings and the economy," he said. *Elizabeth L. San*

Elizabeth L. Sanchez

XEROX PRICE CUT OFF!

Xerox Printers. Expect X more.

The best performers at the best value!

Experience powerful performance advantage with Xerox Laser Printers. This means amazingly fast printing in real world use, no matter how complex your print job or your business. And, with its economical breakthrough price and stunning image quality, Xerox printers represent a smart choice, smart value for your office.

Phaser 3115

Print resolution 600 x 600 dpi; 1,100 dpi class - 14 pages per minute
High capacity printing with a duty cycle of up to 15,000 prints
Fast page out time of less than 12 seconds

Now only **₱8,890.00**

DocuPrint 240

True 1,200 x 1,200 dpi resolution - 24 pages per minute
High capacity printing with a duty cycle of up to 75,000 prints
Network-ready

Now only **₱36,990.00**

DocuPrint 205

Accommodates A3 paper size and allows booklet printing
True 1,200 x 1,200 dpi resolution - 20 pages per minute
High capacity printing with a duty cycle of up to 50,000 prints
Network-ready

Now only **₱59,990.00**

Prints on A3

Cut back on your marketing cost! Do your marketing materials in-house. With the versatility of Xerox Color Laser Printers, you are guaranteed quality output such as POPs, T-shirts, stickers, newsletters, brochures, business cards, banners, books, etc.

Phaser 6250 Color

- High-resolution 2400 dpi - 24 ppm color and black
- Duplex for fast 2-sided printing
- Network-ready
- Postscript 3 for cleaner image processing
- High capacity printing with a duty cycle of up to 100,000 prints

Now only **₱99,000.00**

Prints on A3

Phaser 7300 Color

- Prints on A3 for newsletters and bulletins
- High-resolution 2400 dpi - 36 ppm color / 37 ppm black
- Duplex for fast 2-sided printing
- Network-ready
- Postscript 3 for cleaner image processing
- High capacity printing with a duty cycle of up to 85,000 prints

Now only **₱329,000.00**

Philippine Distributor

better solutions

url: www.xil.com.ph • e-mail: inquire@xil.com.ph
Tel: 723.0601 • Fax: 723.7851



Share the power to build

UCC launches the Holcim 'galing Mason' Program

MESSAGES



My cordial greetings to the people behind the "Holcim galing Mason" program.

The primary objective of the "Holcim galing Mason" program which is to enhance the knowledge and skills of masons through basic and advanced masonry training and skills certification is very timely as we try to generate millions of jobs for our people.

I am very pleased that you have decided to make skills training as the focus of your initiative because indeed, education is the most lasting gift that we can share with people.

We can now look forward to an industry filled with knowledgeable, highly-skilled, and motivated masons that play an important role in nation-building, and who are sought after in many parts of the world.

Mabuhay!

Signed

Gloria Arroyo
Hon. GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines



In behalf of the men and women of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, I would like to express my sincerest greetings to Union Cement Corporation (UCC) for today's launch of its flagship corporate social responsibility program, the "Holcim galing Mason."

"Holcim galing Mason" is yet another ground-breaking initiative in skills development, certification, and jobs generation that brings together the expertise from the business community, civil society, and the public sector. UCC, a member of the Holcim Group, has found the best partners in the implementation of "Holcim galing Mason": TESDA, the Philippine Construction Association, and the National Union of Building and Construction Workers.

While the UCC shared the best concrete technology, TESDA is collaborating with the PCA in designing the training program based on the latest training regulations. The NUBCW, on the other hand, is responsible for the work values component of the program.

The four key partners have put in their expertise in line with program development, training, design, program implementation, development of assessment tools, and selling the program to the target clientele. The final product of the team was nothing less than the right mix of job skills and work attitudes components designed to produce quality masons.

We at TESDA are very proud to take part in this noble endeavor of enhancing the knowledge and skills of masons, and to promote the image of masons - the group of people instrumental in laying the foundation - literally - of homes, roads, and offices. Through "Holcim galing Mason," we share with masons the power to build and we read them towards decent work. Congratulations to UCC! Mabuhay ang "Holcim galing Mason!"

Signed

Augusto Boboy Syjuco
Hon. Augusto Boboy Syjuco
Director General
TESDA (Technical Education and Skills Development Authority)



Over the last 50 years, the Philippine Constructors Association - the oldest trade organization in the country - has always been at the forefront for the continued development of the construction industry. Thus, when Union Cement Corporation conceived the "Holcim galing Mason" program, the PCA immediately saw that it had a role to play in order for UCC to attain its noble objective to enhance the knowledge and skills of masons, promote the image of the masonry trade, and give recognition to outstanding masons.

Needless to say that, for us in the construction industry, masons are very critical. They form part of the team that lay the foundation for homes, bridges, landmark infrastructures, and buildings where families, organizations, and economies are built. At the crux of our partnership with UCC is the desire not only to develop the skills of masons but also to instill the values of construction safety, efficiency, and pride among masons. Furthermore, we need to maintain a pool of skilled masons that can support the construction industry.

In behalf of the PCA, I express my warmest congratulations to UCC for this relevant corporate social responsibility project. "Holcim galing Mason" will definitely help raise the quality level of work of Filipino masons, which in the long-run would result in safer homes and roads in the country or overseas where the Filipino workforce may carve yet another niche.

The PCA vision to be an agent of change for the continuous improvement of standards and practices to achieve a sustainable and globally competitive construction industry is well supported by "Holcim galing Mason." Thus, we are very proud and very grateful for this opportunity to be a key partner of UCC. Mabuhay ang "Holcim galing Mason!"

Signed

Emilio J. Tumbocan
Emilio J. Tumbocan
President
Philippine Constructors Association



It is our overarching interest to give dignity to those human beings who build through their hands the nation's monumental landmarks and edifices that serve as human shelter and infrastructure link to our economic act. The collective effort of Union Cement Corporation, the Philippine Constructors Association, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority to recognize masons is definitely worth appreciating.

In a more competitive environment, the unselfish push to upgrade the skills level of Filipino masons through "Holcim galing Mason" program ultimately benefit us in the industry without any reservation. The National Union of Building and Construction Workers is grateful for having a contribution to the "Holcim galing Mason" program.

In a more competitive environment, the unselfish push to upgrade the skills level of Filipino masons through "Holcim galing Mason" program ultimately benefit us in the industry without any reservation. The National Union of Building and Construction Workers is grateful for having a contribution to the "Holcim galing Mason" program.

In behalf of the NUBCW, Mabuhay kayong mga mason! Mabuhay ang "Holcim galing Mason" program!

Signed

Arwin Villamin
Arwin Villamin
National President
NUBCW (National Union of Building and Construction Workers)



The launch of the Holcim galing Mason program shows our commitment to play an important role in the sustainable development of the Philippines. As the leading cement company in the country, we recognize our responsibility to help the Filipino workforce gain skills and find jobs to be able to live a quality life.

As our flagship corporate social responsibility program, galing Mason, aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of masons through basic and advanced masonry training and skills certification. The program also seeks to promote the image of the masons and give recognition to skilled and outstanding masons.

With our partners namely the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, the Philippine Constructors Association, and the National Union of Building and Construction Workers, we are confident that galing Mason will attain its objectives and serve as a positive force in developing the skills and competitiveness of Filipino masons here and abroad.

The pilot implementation of galing Mason last year yielded very rewarding results. All of the 400 masons trained are now better skilled, motivated, and more employable - in fact, half of them are now paid masons. Truly, the Filipino worker has great potential and with public and private sector working together, this potential can be set free for the benefit of the country.

On behalf of the management and staff of Holcim UCC, express my profound gratitude to all our partners in galing Mason. May this program serve as a testament of our fervent commitment to a long-term and meaningful partnership with the Philippine society.

Signed

Paul M. O'Callaghan
Paul M. O'Callaghan
Chief Operating Officer
Union Cement Corporation

BUILDING WORLD-CLASS BUILDERS

UCC launches Holcim 'galing Mason Program

Corporate social responsibility is one of the cornerstones of Union Cement Corporation's (UCC) strategic and sustainable business direction. As the leading cement manufacturer in the Philippines, UCC's commitment to be an active force in promoting social and economic progress goes beyond jobs generation and manufacturing industry leadership.

UCC takes its commitment one step further with the launch of the Holcim 'galing Mason program, a project that aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of masons – those who level, form, and shape concrete structures such as houses and buildings, roads and bridges, monuments and architectural masterpieces.

In addition to raising the skills level of masons, the 'galing Mason program seeks to achieve at least three more objectives: (1) enhance the employability of Filipino masons; (2) recognize skilled and outstanding masons; and (3) promote the image of masons.

"The program is consistent with our corporate social responsibility thrust to focus on education: not just for children but also skills development for adults so they will be more employable and more productive people in their community and in the construction industry," says Paul M. O'Callaghan, UCC chief executive officer.

UCC brings together the strengths of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) through the guidance of TESDA NCR and NITVET offices, Philippine Constructors Association (PCA) through the active participation of its Executive Director Manolito Madraño, and the National Union of Building and Construction Workers (NUBCW) through its Secretary General Meynardo Palarca in defining the competency standards, development of training curriculum and assessment tool for the implementation of 'galing Mason program.



Paul O'Callaghan (center) with TESDA Officers and guests.



Presentation of the first 'galing Mason training roll out award to Carlos Paredes of Taguig.



Galing Mason MOA signing (l-r) Emilio Tambocor (PCA), Arnel Wimala (NUBCW), Sec. Bobby Syjuco (TESDA) and Paul O'Callaghan (UCC).

Displaying Filipino masons skills and artistry

To produce a new breed of highly skilled masons who are artistic, energetic, and well-motivated, UCC launches the 'galing Mason Olympics, a skills challenge among skilled masons. The 'galing Mason Olympics is open to masons certified by TESDA within or outside the 'galing Mason Training. The competition has four levels: the Regional Olympics, the National Olympics, and sponsorships to the ASEAN Olympics, and the World Olympics.

At international masonry skills challenges, the spotlight is not only focused on the skills of young masons but also on careers in the masonry industry. One of the key goals of international masonry skills competitions is to raise the level of appreciation and interest for the age-old craft amongst young people.

Recognizing outstanding Filipino masons

Masons especially in the Philippines, are oftentimes undervalued. This is unfortunate since masonry is one the highest forms of art and its contributions to society last for generations. The Egyptian Pyramids, the Colosseum in Rome, the Great Wall of China – are only some of the world's architectural works of art that were built with masonry.

"As a blue-collar job, masonry fails to get the amount of recognition that it richly deserves," says O'Callaghan. UCC aims to recognize exemplary Filipino masons and restore the value and appreciation for the classic art of masonry among Filipinos through the Holcim 'galing Mason Award.

"Through the 'galing Mason Award, we look forward to a new generation of Filipinos who have high respects for masons and for the enduring craft that is masonry," says O'Callaghan.

The 'galing Mason Award is an annual search open to all masons all over the country. The search will commence in October this year, in time for the nationwide rollout of the 'galing Mason program.

The pilot implementation of the 'galing Mason Training Program which ran from September 2003 to March 2004, has produced at least 400 newly trained masons across five regions of the country. These masons have helped build 16 housing units for Habitat for Humanity and Gawad Kalinga, two school buildings, and three TESDA training centers, among others.

"We have found the best partners to guarantee that 'galing Mason will attain its objectives and serve as a positive force in developing skills and competitiveness of Filipino masons," O'Callaghan laments.

The main components of the 'galing Mason program are: 'galing Mason Training, which serves as the core project component focusing on the enhancement of skills of masons; 'galing Mason Olympics, which showcases the masons' skills through various levels of competition; and 'galing Mason Award, which seeks to give due recognition to outstanding masons around the country.

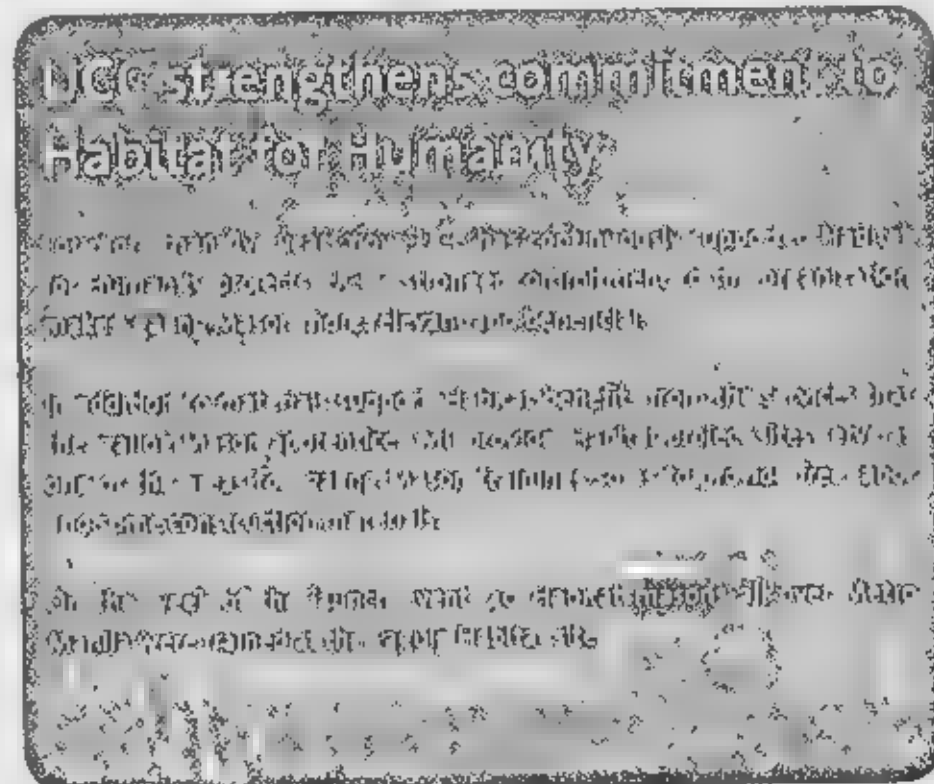
Training world-class Filipino masons

The 7-day 'galing Mason Training program, which is open to prospective, new or uncertified masons, offers skills training, assessment, and skills certification. The program curriculum, which is training cum production, was designed for the masons to learn the appropriate masonry trade and expertise, possess a positive work values and attitude and appropriate application of concrete technology.

"To be a good mason, one needs a good grasp of both theory and practice. With theoretical instruction on technology and skills, the worker-trainees job performance would improve greatly after completion of the training," says Augusto Syjuco, TESDA director-general.

The 'galing Mason Training Program is free. Throughout the 7-day course, the masons will be provided with free masonry tools, t-shirt, and meals. They also get to earn a training allowance while they learn and participate in the construction of houses, schools, and other community facilities.

After the training, the apprentices will undergo skills assessment to determine their mastery of the required skills and competencies of a mason. Those who will successfully pass the trade test are issued the appropriate certificate of competencies or national trade skills certificates.



Holcim Group

UCC strengthens commitment to Habitat for Humanity

Gov't asked to help keep sugar prices stable

THE SUGAR Industry, through the Confederation of Sugar Producers Association (Confed), is seeking the government's intervention in preventing sugar mill gate prices from skidding to unprofitable levels in view of surplus production.

In a letter to Sugar Regulatory Authority Administrator James Christopher Ledesma, Confed, which claims to be the largest group of sugar producers in the country, specifically sought the allocation of P1 billion to fund the government's sugar buying operations. Confed wants the support price for sugar set at not less than P700 per 50-kilogram bag.

Confed is projecting sugar production to reach 2.28 million metric tons during the current crop year (September 2004 to August

2005), up from 2.06 million metric tons in the last crop year.

"They (Confed) fear that the additional production of 410,000 will put substantial pressure on the mill gate prices of sugar," said Ledesma in an interview Friday.

Ledesma also noted that the previous year's sugar inventory stood at 410,000 metric tons.

The cost of producing sugar was placed at P400 to P500 per 50-kg bag.

Ledesma said he had forwarded the petition of the sugar producers to Agriculture Secretary Yap for approval and endorsement, to Manila.

Manoacan intervened through the National Food Authority, which bought about 70,000 metric tons of sugar at P700 to P720 per 50-kg bag.

Christine A. Gaytanan

COST-CUTTING MEASURES Napocor posts P13B in savings

By Abigail L. Mo

SELF-IMPOSED cost-cutting initiatives, including more efficient plant operations and the use of cheaper fuel alternatives, enabled debt-ridden National Power Corp to save more than P13 billion last year.

Napocor data showed that P6.76 billion in savings came from property prioritizing projects under its 2003 expenditure program.

Another P1.93 billion in savings was generated through the reduction of the agency's operational expenses.

While prioritizing key projects and cutting down on internal ex-

penditures, Napocor also worked on improving the efficiency of its plants.

Last year, Napocor was able to bring down the heat rate of its Luzon power plants to 9,717 British thermal units per kilowatt-hour (Btu/kWh) from 9,829 Btu/kWh in 2002.

Also, its forced outage rate went down to only 2.58 percent in 2003 from 3.42 percent in the previous year.

As a result of these more efficient power plant operations, Napocor was able to realize savings of as much as P1.46 billion.

Napocor also opted to use more Indonesian coal to fuel its coal-fired power plants, giving it

savings of around P240 million. Indonesian coal is usually cheaper than Chinese coal, which the state firm used in the past.

Another P220 million in savings came from the power firm's use of more coal from Semirara mines, jacking up local coal volume use to 1.5 million metric tons (MT) in 2003 from 1.2 million MT in 2002.

The cash-strapped power company likewise started blending imported coal with the local variety in its Sual plant in Pangasinan and Masinloc plant in Zambales.

The other measures that enabled Napocor to realize savings were the use of the electronic bid-

ding system for its fuel requirements, the employment of the economic load dispatching system and the reduction of its personnel.

The e-bidding system allowed the state firm to get more competitive bids from fuel suppliers, thus giving it the best value for its money.

The economic load dispatching system meant that Napocor prioritized the use of power plants that were cheaper to run.

Also in 2003, the state firm continued to implement manpower reduction measures that brought down the number of employees from 8,000 in 2001 to only 3,700 in 2003.

UCPB PROPERTY MARKET

NATIONWIDE AUCTION

OCTOBER 23, 2004 • 9:00 A.M. • UCPB BLDG., MAKATI AVE., MAKATI CITY

10% DOWNPAYMENT

11% INTEREST

10 YEARS TO PAY

| |
|---|
| LAS PIÑAS CITY UCPB COMM. BLDG. LA 280sqm FA 600sqm EDL Apartments, 11 Rose Ave Pinar del Rio, Alabang Minimum Bid Price P 5,940,000.00 UCPB COMM. LOT LA 855sqm Brgy. Zapote, Las Piñas City Minimum Bid Price P 3,777,250.00 UCPB COMM. LOT LA 107sqm Brgy. Zapote, Las Piñas City Minimum Bid Price P 2,268,750.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 2,150sqm FA 100sqm No. 16 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 3,000,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 2,150sqm FA 100sqm Daisy St. Marikina Subd. Minimum Bid Price P 3,000,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000.00 UCPB CONDO UNIT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB HOUSE & LOT LA 1,400sqm FA 100sqm No. 14 Brgy. St. Marikina Minimum Bid Price P 1,475,000.00 UCPB RES. LOT LA 240sqm Lot 4 Block 12 Clementine Road, Pinar del Rio Minimum Bid Price P 1,850,000. |
|---|

People, Events & Products

Papal Nuncio stresses media's role in value formation

THE PAPAL Nuncio Archbishop Antonio Franco has underscored the vital role media play in molding people's values that contribute to the building of a better society and the advancement of humanity's authentic welfare.

"Mass media are means of social communication. So, by their very nature, media always entail the communication of something," he said, adding: "Thus, one who works for mass media must not only be a master of his art and technology, but he must also be a man with a heart and conscience, with a profound human empathy and a consciousness of his lofty responsibility."

The Papal Nuncio stressed this in his message for the forthcoming Catholic Mass Media Awards (CMMA) set for Oct. 12 at the Irwin Theater, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. This year's theme is "The Media and the

Family: A Risk and a Richness."

The Papal Nuncio also emphasized the importance of the family, noting that it is "the very life and future of every nation and of the Church. This is the reason the gospel of the family is the good news of the third millennium."

In his message to the board of trustees headed by Ambassador Antonio L. Cabangon Chua as chair, the Papal Nuncio commended the CMMA, now celebrating its 26th year, for offering incentives and encouragement to media producers and products that promote Christian values essential for building up a more human world and one that corresponds to man's total vocation and thus make a precious contribution to the mission of the Church in the evangelization of the present times.

He said the annual activity is one thing the media can look up to as he expressed fears that the media have



the capacity to seriously damage families when they present an inadequate or even distorted outlook on the family, on life, on religion and on morality.



BDO, CBN GRUPO SEAL AGREEMENT

Banco de Oro Universal Bank (BDO) formalized an agreement with CBN Grupo to promote, through the latter's ports in Europe and Asia, the newest and most innovative remittance product, the BDO Remit Cash Card-the 'InstaLoad InstaCash' card. It is a domestic card specifically designed for beneficiaries receiving regular remittances from abroad. Because of its online feature, remittance from OFWs can be credited to the BDO Remit Cash Card in just a matter of minutes. In addition to the cash card promotion, CBN Grupo will also promote the 'BDO Remittance Pick-Up Anywhere' at branches

of BDO. OFWs can send remittances in peso, US dollar or even in the form of SM Gift Cheques, their beneficiaries can choose from which of the 160 BDO branches nationwide they can claim the remittance. Shown are Nestor V. Tan (3rd from left) and Nella Locsin (4th from left), presidents of BDO and CBN Grupo, respectively, shaking hands after the contract signing. The event was witnessed by (from left) lawyer Salvador Manalo, legal consultant of CBN Grupo, Ismael Estela, SVP and head of transaction banking group, and William Ng, CBN director.

Orange Tours and Travel participates in F and B expo

ORANGE Tours and Travel joined the 6th International Food and Beverage Exposition held June 30 to July 3. Its participation aimed to promote its upcoming event "Orange Caravan 2005, Your Journey Has Just Begun", an ultimate experience where participants can reach their dream destinations.

Orange Tours and Travel is one of the travel agencies that create affordable tour packages, encourage participation of local, foreign and private sectors and events management as a way of promoting and developing the culture of tourism in local travel destinations. This increases the number of domestic and foreign travelers visiting the Philippines' natural wonders, theme parks, and other points of interest in major cities and locales.

The caravan would tap tourist destinations most local and foreign tourists would place on top of their itineraries. Participants would enjoy two weeks of fun, excitement, comfort, pleasure, and a night of party as Orange Tours brings an ultimate experience in dream desti-



AT THE recently concluded 6th International Food and Beverage Exposition at the World Trade Center were (from left) Roy Martin, director of sales and marketing of Microtel Inn, Josie Dingoog, general manager of Orange Tours and Travel and Mayose Gozon-Bautista, project director of the

nations. For more information, call 924-1957, 434-3879, 0916-3246780 or e-mail or-
angetrvi@hotmail.com, or log on to www.orange-tours-caravan2005.com.



MICROSOFT PCS FOR TEACHERS PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Microsoft Philippines, Intel Microelectronics Philippines and Asia United Bank recently launched PCs for Public School Teachers, an initiative that allows public school teachers to have their very own PC at a subsidized rate and on a friendly installment program. Application forms for this program has been available starting Oct. 7. The PCs for Public School Teachers program is

endorsed by the Department of Education. Shown during the signing of the agreement were, from left, Antonio "TJ" Javier, managing director of Microsoft Philippines, Vic Jim, executive first vice president of Asia United Bank, Ricky Banaag, country manager, Intel Microelectronics Philippines, and DepEd Undersecretary Juan Miguel Luz.

Permanent Plans employs telemarketing to prop up services

PERMANENT Plans Inc (PPI), one of the leading names in the pre-need industry, has added another innovation in its marketing and sales strategy with the launch of its telemarketing services department November 2003. The 14-year-old company is only the fourth in the pre-need and insurance industry to employ this kind of marketing approach.

"We think it's about time to innovate since the company is always on the lookout for improvements that will eventually benefit our customers and future clients," said Joseph Ronquillo, Permanent Plans senior manager for teleservices. "We see the telemarketing services department as another way of doing business-a more aggressive way of selling pre-need," he added.

The telemarketing services department complements the tried and tested "traditional" method of selling pre-need via agents. Through this method, Permanent Plans is introduced to people who have no prior knowledge of the company and its services.

"A phone call doesn't take more than five minutes-the telemarketers simply invite their prospects to drop by the Permanent Plans main office located in Ayala, Makati where an agent will answer their concerns about pre-need and the company," Ronquillo further explained. "A free accident insurance good for a year is given as premium to clients who will drop by the Permanent Plans office."

Besides Ronquillo, a support and training team consisting of three area managers were also brought onboard to set up the teleservices

project. The team already had 10 years of experience in pre-need telemarketing, having been part of the team that first formulated and tested the method on past pre-need and insurance companies in the early 1990s. Currently, the department employs 30 full-time agents.

"The numbers are quite promising even only after five months of operation," said Ronquillo. "Telemarketing services already processes 10,500 names a week where most of their new clients are culled from. A telemarketer alone makes 15 bookings per day, where an average of two prospects is successfully turned into new clients."

However, Ronquillo said the success of telemarketing services would also depend on the continuous training of its telemarketers and agents. To do this, the team holds a weekly company briefing and training to enhance agent customer interaction skills. Moreover, since Permanent Plans puts value in trust and *alagang panghabang buhay*, agents are trained to put more importance in winning the trust of his client than making a sale.

Ronquillo also believes that telemarketing services will not outdate traditional agents. "Agents will always be a vital part of pre-need they are the ones that give face to the company."

The team is looking at expanding soon by employing more people to double their output as the year progresses. There are also plans of adding more telephone lines to expand call traffic.



PLDT, CEU SIGN MOA

PLDT recently signed a memorandum of agreement with Centro Escolar University (CEU) for the provision of PLDT BizDSL Power Packed 2MB with additional 100MB e-mail hosting and web-hosting through PLDT Business Solutions. Seated, from left, are Victor Y. Tria, PLDT senior manager for IP solutions category, Precy P. Kaligbak, PLDT head for access business, Cesar Enriquez, PLDT FVP for corporate credit administration and support, Dr. Rosita Navarro, CEU president, Conrado Iñigo Jr., CEU

AVP for technology and development, and Patricia Echaz, CEU VP for financial affairs in behalf of Carroelita La O, SVP of business affairs. Standing, from left, are Carlo Aguas, PLDT relationship manager, Edmund Pike, PLDT product manager, Rommel Jotic, CEU head, computer science department, Teresita Miljares, CEU head, IGT department, June de Jesus, CEU coordinator, programming section, Julius Cortez, CEU network division chair, and Gary Arguelles, CEU systems analysis division chair.



BEST OF EUROPE

Recently returning from a 19-day, 8-nation pilgrimage tour of Europe are the 28 men and women (shown above), who prayed through the Stations of the Cross in Lourdes-one of the highlights of the trip that started July 22 and extended to Singapore. Adam's Express Travel has arranged another Oct. 12 departure, led by Adam's president Mamarth Baratin with Fr. Pono as pilgrimage chaplain. The July 22 participants were, front row from left, Elsa and Giselle Go, Delecia Bata, Norma

Sarnison and Fe Rivera. Second row: Fr. Carlito Pono, Grace Aberico, Virginia Crucillo, Estrella Cagampang, Hercules Sapurida, Consolacion Roy, Rosita Tan, Flor Enriquez, Quintina Calagos, Editha Tan, Beatriz Sepa, Elena Tiong, Josie Darang, Celestino Balcon, Urzudina Pono and Gloriana Balcon. Not with the group are Baratin, Elmer Ang bun, Maria David, Dr. Ellen Aranas, Peewee Diaz and Mr and Ms Quintin Sapurida.

Intramuros painting tiit

INSTITUTO Cervantes once again presents "Fiesta Spanish Festival for Culture and the Arts" in commemoration of its National Day celebrated every Oct. 12. One of the events during the month-long festival is the "Concurso de Pintura Rapida", an on-the-spot painting competition where all artists and art enthusiasts, young and old, amateurs and professionals alike are invited to participate. The contest's theme is "Rincones de Intramuros (Corners of Intramuros)", which means that painters or painters-in-the-making may choose any nook and cranny of Intramuros as their subject. The competition is open to all residents of the Philippines 17 years old and above. Registration will be at the Puerta Real Gardens from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Submission of finished paintings will be from 2 to 3 p.m., after which the paintings will be exhibited and sold from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call the Instituto Cervantes at 526-1482 to 85.

ANF nat'l assembly

THE ADORACION Nocturna Filipina, an association of lay persons devoted to the adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, celebrated its 84th year on Oct. 10. In celebration of this milestone, a National Eucharistic Assembly will convene at the Pope Plus Center at UN Avenue, Manila on Oct. 16 and 17. Tagged as the 15th National Assembly, it will witness the convergence of delegates from all over the country with the common goal of strengthening the ANF Constitution and By-laws, in order that all may better know, love and adore the Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Founded in 1920 in the old Jesuit Church of San Ignacio in Intramuros, Manila, ANF is a national organization with units called *turnos* established in every diocese in the country. Its members manifest dedication to our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist through night adoration.

OBITUARIES

*An obituary with
a picture can be
a fitting tribute
to your departed loved one.*

Always caring...

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification document (I.D.)

**DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
FREE OBIT DESIGN**

FRANCISCO NICOLAS DUQUE

Peacefully joined our Lord on October 9, 2004
at the age of 82.

His loving wife Socorro Duque (†); children Oscar & Tita, Lucy & Celso, Angeles & Mary, Teresa, Nancy & Jesem, Mercedes, Mary Anne, Paulo; grandchildren, nephews & nieces request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at #7 I, Fernando St., Malanday, Valenzuela City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2004 at the Valenzuela Memorial Park at 3 p.m.

SABAS M. ISAGUIRRE, SR.

Peacefully joined our Lord
on October 9, 2004 at the age of 79.

He will be missed by his wife, Crescencia Macasieb, children Bobsie & Norma, Mike & Corina, Emma & Vitis, Bobby & Malu, Berdie & Jane and Cresh & Mat; grandchildren Katch, Quella, Ira, Christian, Tinni, Carlo, Lorenz, Karren, Althea, Victor, Nicole, Jonel, Ayeesh, Ma. Cresh, Charize & Mat Jr., brother Cornelio, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

His remains lie in state at Capilla San Aemihani of Arlington East, The Garden Chapels, 1354 C. Raymundo Ave. corner Mercedes Ave., Pasig City.

Interment will be at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina, date and time will be announced later

We accept Classified advertisements
Lines: Recruitment, Obituaries, Bidding

in Visayas

Start up to an INQUIRER Day? Some no still po.

Bohol City
Mr. Eusebio Yandorja
Bulwagang M. Swirla
Tara Building, La Bita Avenue
Bohol City
Tel. No. (038) 435-3028
Cell No. (0917) 986-2591
Cebu
Cebu Daily News
1500 S. L. Road, Cebu City
Tel. No. (032) 22-7818
MORONG
Rm. 201 Jansel Bldg. 2
(near Al Duran Corner)
Fuentes Corner, St. Cabal City
Tel. No. (032) 236-1954
(032) 405-1988
Dumaguete City
Mr. Raymond Mercado
H. Tapinas Building
General Merchandise
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-5079/725-5790
425-7255/425-7257 Fax: 425-7253
Marikina City
Mr. Ramon Chaves Jr.
Rm. 201 Jansel Bldg. 2
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-4326/425-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182
Iloilo
Mr. Eduardo Ty
1500 S. L. Road, Cebu City
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-4326/425-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182
Manila
Mr. Eduardo Ty
1500 S. L. Road, Cebu City
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-4326/425-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182

Bohol
Mr. Jim Belandier
309 Lardner Street, Bldg. City
Tel. No. (032) 335-8032
Cell No. (0917) 405-8180
Cebu
Dr. Deane Candelario
Candelario Enterprise
1100 S. L. Road, Cebu City
Tel. No. (032) 22-7818
Fax: 425-7255/425-7257
Dumaguete City
Mr. Raymond Mercado
H. Tapinas Building
General Merchandise
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-5079/725-5790
425-7255/425-7257 Fax: 425-7253
Marikina City
Mr. Ramon Chaves Jr.
Rm. 201 Jansel Bldg. 2
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-4326/425-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182
Iloilo
Mr. Eduardo Ty
1500 S. L. Road, Cebu City
Dr. V. Juan Street, Dumaguete City
Tel. No. (035) 725-4326/425-7452
Fax No. (035) 255-1182

CLASSIFIEDS

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER enjoys the highest circulation and readership among all the major newspapers in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 50% according to the 2001 Asia Research Corporation's NPD by EIC. To be sure.

Dolores "Nena" Turingan Mallonga

of Tuguegarao City and Project 8, Q.C.

(March 29, 1917 - October 6, 2004)

Peacefully joined her Creator
at the age of 87

Her bereaved brothers, sisters and in-laws, Albert (†) and Cons. Titay and Ching, Phine and Aladin, Isabela (†), Justo (†) and Doming, Betty and Angel, Lily, nephews and nieces request readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state in La Funeraria Paz, C-11 South wing building, Q.C.

Interment will be on Tuesday, October 12, 2004 at the Heavens Gate I, Cogeo, Antipolo City after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Chapel II

COL. DANIEL SAYGO MACATLANG, SR.

PC (RET.)

Peacefully joined his Creator
on October 6, 2004 at the age of 75

His children Lina, Noli, Daniel, Jr., Rommel and their families request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul. His remains lie at the Chapel in 99 Lalakay, Los Baños, Laguna.

Interment will be on October 14, 2004, 10:00 a.m. Calamba Cemetery

**"...absent from the body to be
present with the Lord."** 2 Corinthians 5:6

CLASSIFIEDS

**Your
career
might
only be
a click
of the
mouse
away.**



VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com



Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following items:

| Description | Quantity | Approved Budget |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES (ATM) | 18 units | P 25,200,000.00 |
| UNINTERRUPTED POWER SUPPLY, 1.5 KVA | 37 units | 2,960,000.00 |
| MICR CHECK READER WITH COMPUTER/PRINTER (HARDWARE/SOFTWARE) | 14 units | 6,510,000.00 |
| MICR CHECK ENCODER | 11 units | 1,595,000.00 |
| PORTABLE MONEY COUNTER | 4 units | 320,000.00 |

Expected Delivery Date: March 22, 2005 — AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE
Expected Delivery Date: February 15, 2005 — OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENT

Schedule of Activities:

Pre-Bidding Conference:
October 27, 2004 (Wednesday) at 9:00 a.m. 6/F, OPS Conference Room, DBP Main Building, Makati Ave., Makati City

Submission and Opening of Eligibility Documents, Technical and Financial Proposals "On or before" November 10, 2004 (Wednesday) at 9:00 a.m. 6/F, OPS, DBP Head Office.

Application for eligibility check is open to suppliers registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission/Department of Trade and Industry and has been engaged in the Supply, Delivery and Installation of the above office equipment for at least three (3) years, must be at least 60% Filipino-owned (for partnership and corporations). Interested suppliers may secure the Eligibility Requirement Form from the Procurement Services Division, 8th Floor, DBP Building, Makati City or you may download these forms at www.devbankphil.com.ph and at the Electronic Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184 series of 2003 will be used in the conduct of this Bidding.

The Bank reserves the right to reject documents that do not comply with the requirements. For further inquiries, please call Mr. Manuel A. Tagala at telephone numbers 812-8375/815-1613.

Bids and Awards Committee

[PCI - Oct 11 & 19, 2004]

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Invitation to Bid

The assets, consisting of two (2) parcels of land are being offered for Public Bidding in two (2) separate lots, on an "as-is, where-is" basis. Said assets formerly belong to Prime White Cement Corporation (PWCC) located at Brgy. Sta. Lucia, San Fernando, Pampanga.

| Lot No. | Particulars | Indicative Price |
|---------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Land (330 sq.m., TCT No. 574187) | P 165,000 |
| 2 | Land (350 sq.m., TCT No. 574188) | P 175,000 |

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of bidders on October 29, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, PMO Bldg., 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Interested parties may request for a duly authenticated copy of the Asset Specific Bidding Rules (ASBR), Asset Specific Bidding Form (ASBF) together with the Asset Specific Catalogue for a nominal fee of P500.00.

For more information, please call Ms. Melinda B. Cortez of the PMO Marketing Department at telephone numbers 892-2145 or 818-4733.

HARRY POUND COMPANY CONDUCTS WORKSHOP

The Harry Pound Company recently conducted an intensive two-day workshop on Tactical Sales Negotiation aimed at providing advanced skills in planning, conducting, and evaluating negotiations with corporate buyers. Shown are, seated in the middle from left, Joe Mar Matlenzo, president, Noreen Laragan, VP - marketing and sales and Norman Goss, master trainer, partner consultant of The Harry Pound Company and the participants from various business organizations including Asia Brewery, Zuelzig Pharma Corporation, Purefoods, Abacus, Infomax Systems, BHA Group Phils. and STI. The workshop was held in the Broadway Room of the Astoria Plaza in Pasig City. A new batch is scheduled on October 8-9, with few seats left. To register, please call 404-2753.



UP IBALON 30TH ANNIVERSARY

The board of directors of the UP Ibalon, the oldest organization of Bicolano students from the University of the Philippines, is celebrating its milestone year with an alumni homecoming affair on Dec. 4, and a host of socially relevant projects like scholarship grants and educational programs to poor and deserving Bicolano students and depressed Bicol communities. Discussing plans during one of the board's regular meetings are, from left, Charria Belmonte, Peter de la Cruz, Arnel Astillero, Zards Colambo (president), Robert Uy, Teddy Rigoroso, Wilma Silva-Netto Roxas and TG Serrano. All alumni are enjoined to call Arnel Astillero, 0916-6833460 or TG Serrano 0917 2076745.

INFOTECH

Text us your feedback inquirer it name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Leo Magno

Mt. Province town gets glimpse of world with Internet

By Erwin Oliva
Contributor

POBLACION, BONTOC—A few meters from the Mountain Province General Comprehensive High School (MPGCHS), students were huddled in a little computer shop as they watched one of their classmates play the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" computer game.

Outside the little shop, a sign was noticeable: "We discourage students from playing during school hours."

That made me smile as I recalled my younger days when my classmates and I would cut class to play video games at a nearby shop. I looked at my watch and realized it was lunch break.

Arriving at the national high school, the sight of students playing an improvised baseball game greeted us. Apparently, traditional play has not been completely forgotten in this remote farming town that can only be reached by a 10-hour drive through Nueva Vizcaya through the dirt roads of the Cordillera mountains from Manila or through the scary seven-hour bus ride via the Halsema highway from Baguio City.

However, since computers and eventually the Internet were introduced to this remote town that is the capital of Mt. Province, kids are now gravitating toward little computer shops to the chagrin of parents.

"Parents are a bit concerned about letting their kids use computers or the Internet," said Lucia Dominguez, physics teacher at the MPGCHS.

Some parents were complaining that their children were spending too much time and money in several Internet cafes that opened a few years ago. There are three Internet cafes in Poblacion. Some are open until 9 p.m. However, due to pressure from parents, this town of 20,000 people has imposed a 9 p.m. curfew.

A beneficiary of Intel's Teach to the Future program for public school teachers, Dominguez understands how Bontoc kids have become hooked on PCs and the Internet.

"Having access to the Internet has encouraged them to explore and do research," she said.

Acceptance of technology in this former farming community apparently takes time.

"Of course, it has some negative effects. Some parents were complaining that their children were staying out late. I think some kids are going to the Internet cafe to chat and play games but they tell their parents they are doing research," said Vernice Cuteng, English teacher at the MPGCHS.

Cuteng, however, believes that computers and the Internet have made the younger generation more aware of the world outside Bontoc. In fact, more and more high school graduates are considering taking IT courses in college, she added.

A computer school has also emerged in Bontoc. Established by a local resident in 1992, Xijen Institute of Technology now has at least 150 students studying programming, computer troubleshooting and basic computer literacy.

As for herself, Cuteng said the Internet has made teaching more interesting.

"Personally, it has made me more aware of my surroundings, and it is now easier to communicate with other teachers from other places outside Bontoc," she added.

Cuteng admitted, however, that a lot of teachers still fear the Internet and computers.

Fourth-year student Christine Rungor is editor of the MPGCHS school paper. Since the school went online in 2003, she now spends two hours a day surfing the Web.

"The Internet has made my life easier. Researching is easier," Rungor said. She is part of the science class, meaning she belongs to the *creme de la creme* of her school.

Rungor uses computers to lay out the school paper. She has her own personal computer at home.

"At least 10 of my classmates have their own PCs at home," she added.

When Evelyn Joyce Taguiba took over as principal of the Mountain Province school in 1999, she envisioned introducing Bontoc students to computers. In 2000, Microsoft gave the school seven computers and one server. They were initially hooked up to Digital but a forest fire

disrupted the telephone connection to the school. Last year, Microsoft connected the school to the Internet via satellite using the Dream net work. MPGCHS eventually became the first high school in Bontoc to be connected to the Internet.

"It was my vision back then to bring technology here to Bontoc. I wanted students to learn or even just get a glimpse of what a computer looks like," she recalled. "I wanted our graduates to be aware of technology by the time they go to the city so that they won't feel inferior."

After getting the grant from Microsoft, the school also became the beneficiary of the Department of Trade and Industry's PCs for Public High Schools program.

Taguiba said the Internet has "augmented" the school's library since it lacked books. More important, the Internet and technology in general changed the way the younger generation thinks.

"They know now what is happening outside," she said.

School principal Taguiba, however, has a growing concern about the sustainability of the school's satellite Internet access. Currently, Microsoft pays the monthly fee to connect the school to the Internet. Taguiba admitted having no idea how much Microsoft was spending.

Since 2003, the school has earned more than P66,000 from charging minimal fees from students, employees and people in the community. The money goes to maintenance of hardware and software, Taguiba said.

Satellite and mobile phone technologies have also changed the way people live, play and work in Bontoc.

"We have 24-hour cable television here in Bontoc," said Joel Fagsan, chief executive officer of Xijen Institute of Technology.

Almost all households in Poblacion have a mobile phone, added Cuteng. "Cell phones are also stolen here," she said.

Despite its isolation from the fast-paced life of urban cities like Manila or Baguio, Bontoc is now connected to the rest of the world via the Internet and CNN. And just like that, the isolated Mountain is no longer alone.



It's about performance.

We've taken all the powerful features that make big projectors rock and packed it into the compact, lightweight InFocus LP70+. Small and sleek, it fits your traveling lifestyle to a T. Change rooms, change audiences, change cities. The LP70+ is designed to impress - wherever you take it.

DLP Technology - XGA (1024 X 768) - 1400 ANSI Lumens
- Lightweight (1.1 kg) - 4000 lamp hours

LP70+

For a free demo of this and/or other models, call 723-0601 or visit www.infocus.com

InFocus

The Worldwide Leader in Digital Projection

Exclusively distributed by:

better solutions

AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

455 Gen. Bautista St. 3rd Floor, Manila
Tel: www.ati.com.ph E-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951

Smart, Globe need Sun competition to push RP mobile industry: Alcatel

By Leo Magno

LEADING mobile operators Smart Communications and Globe Telecom need competition from Sun Cellular to move the Philippine mobile industry forward, according to an executive from telecom firm Alcatel.

Alcatel Asia Pacific president Christian Reinaldo said stiff competition among the three providers is needed to spur the Philippines' adoption of new technologies.

"Between Smart and Globe, the competition is not enough. A third competition is needed," said Reinaldo. "This will probably be initiated by a third player to spark competition and take Smart and Globe to another level (of technology)."

Sun's less than 2 million subscriber base is behind Smart and Globe, whose combined subscriber base is about 28 million. However, Reinaldo said Sun can learn from the mistakes of its two rivals.

"(Sun) invested in the industry late, but their advantage is that previous problems of the other two carriers have already been solved," he said. "It's a novel situation. I have no doubt that (Sun) will make it."

Reinaldo added that competition in the Philippine mobile space is migrating from the acquisition and retention of subscribers to good marketing of mobile services, with the exception of Sun which is still "a step behind and is still trying to gain market share."



REINALDO

"Operating the network is no longer the main problem. It's about marketing services well," he said. "Look at SMS. The Philippines has been a good success story as far as texting is concerned. Years ago, analysts would have never predicted that of all the countries in the world, SMS would boom in the Philippines. It's probably because Globe and Smart marketed (SMS services) well."

An offshoot of the migration of mobile competition to the marketing of services, coupled with the need to cut costs, may even lead to partnerships among Smart, Globe and Sun. Reinaldo cited the cases of Telstra and Hutchison Telecoms forming a partnership in Australia, and competitors Optus and Vodafone which decided to set up a joint company to ease rising costs on new technologies and service deployment.

"Carriers that have been enemies are deciding to minimize their capital expenditures," he said. "That's because deployment is not the place where competition is happening. It's in the services. Globe and Smart may even put up its own partnership to cut costs and then compete in the marketing of services."

Sun's mobile infrastructure was built from the ground up on Alcatel technology. Meanwhile, Alcatel is a fixed equipment supplier for the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company—Smart's parent firm—and Innotev, a daughter firm of Globe.

CyberPress elects new officers

THE INFORMATION Technology Journalists Association of the Philippines Inc., more commonly known as CyberPress, elected its new set of officers last week during its annual media training seminar at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Tagaytay City.

Abigail Ho of the Philippine Daily Inquirer was elected president, replacing Erwin Oliva of INQ7 net who served for three consecutive terms. Other officers elected were Melvin Calimag of Manila Bulletin (vice president for internal affairs), Edwin Sallan, contributor for Today (vice president for external affairs), Bung Ramos of Philippine IT Update (secretary), Marco Abella of Gadgets Magazine (finance committee head), Lawrence Casaraya

of Computerworld Philippines (membership committee head) and Alexand Villafana of INQ7 net (constitutional amendments).

Appointed sectoral representatives were Jing Garcia of Manila Standard (for print) and Erwin Oliva for online publications.

The organization has already drawn up its list of activities for 2005 starting with the 3rd CyberPress Annual Forum to be held in January. The event, which used to be the year-end culminating activity of the group, will have gaming as its theme. This is in recognition of the role of gaming and other forms of electronic entertainment that have emerged recently as new avenues for business growth and recreation.

REWARDS

The wild chase is on for Inquirer's Guyito!

Look for the specially-marked Guyito coupon in the pages of Inquirer. Cut out, put your name, address and signature. Drop at designated drop boxes for a shot at your most wanted rewards!

Join the fun as Inquirer celebrates 19 exciting years of giving Filipinos no less than balanced news and fearless views.

Hunt from September 27 to December 14, 2004!

See posters and print ads for more details!

All products are available at Digital Exchange Galleria 3

BUSINESS

RP roadshow draws flak from foreign traders

By Doris C. Dumlaog

THE PHILIPPINES, which recently embarked on a global roadshow to boost investor interest, instead drew critical remarks on its fiscal reform agenda and the terms of a recent \$1-billion bond offering.

This, according to banking sources, was the reason behind the sudden resignation of the country's investor relations officer Cora Guidote, who said that she could no longer be effective at her job after being put on the hot seat during the roadshow.

Banking sources close to Guidote said some fund managers, such as Rubicon, had accused the Philippines of making a "fundamental error" that adversely affected the pricing of the recent \$1-billion bond float.

The skeptics also claimed that hedge funds had been given more bond allocation during the recent \$1-billion offering, which only put long-term investors at a disadvantage because some of the hedge funds were sold even before the investors acquired their shares.

Compared to the country's previous roadshows, most of the investors left with a negative perception of the country, said sources privy to the meetings which Citigroup and HSBC arranged.

Despite the criticism, HSBC and Citigroup still believe that investors will continue to support the Philippines' future foreign borrowings, sources said.

A government official said it was not fair to blame the recent global bond offering for the dire results of the roadshow.

"There was no question that there were investors who were not happy, but I would think there were those who



ROAD WELL TRAVELED

Vehicles stream through the northern exit of the North Luzon Expressway linking Manila with northern Luzon. The \$371-million joint venture project between the government and a consortium of Filipino, French and Australian firms will be completed in December and will be able to handle at least 170,000 vehicles a day.

were happy," the official said.

The official said the investors who got an allocation were rewarded because they ended up with a higher yield, while the hedge funds which resorted to short-selling—or selling the bonds they did not own yet—lost in their bets.

Unfortunately, none of the officials present during the meeting was able to satisfy

the investors' queries on the controversial bond offering. The architect of the bond float, Finance Undersecretary Eric Recto, was not present during the roadshow.

The sources said Guidote herself thought that the bond offering was "indecisive" and "not well-planned" and was thus unable to quash the criticisms during the roadshow.

"At the end of the day, the offering should not have been a unilateral decision," the source close to Guidote said. "The finance department should have listened to inputs from foreign investors."

"They were placed in hot water during the roadshow, especially in Europe," the source added. "The government must really investigate this offering."

Investors said to be driven away by high power costs

By Ronnel W. Domingo

INDUSTRIES are hard pressed to find ways to insulate themselves from rising electricity prices which industry leaders fear have been driving other investors to pack up and transfer to other countries with lower costs.

Dan C. Lachica, president of First Sumiden Circuits Inc., said large power users were very concerned about the local power rates. Lachica said that potential investors, as existing ones, were being driven away.

First Sumiden, a member of the Semiconductor and Electronic Industries of the Philippines Inc., manufactures flexible printed circuits for computer hard disc drives.

"The cost of power in the Philippines is two to three times higher than those in our neighboring countries like China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand," Lachica said.

The situation he added, was eroding investments and driving up manufacturing costs.

"For big operations, it may be strategically sound to stay and expand," Lachica said. "But for smaller investments, it is so easy to just pack up and leave."

According to Lachica, new investments are now rare. He cited the case of SunPower Philippines Manufacturing Ltd. where its \$319-million project was realized only after it was guaranteed certain concessions including a guarantee of lower power cost.

He also cited how some existing multinational companies were studying their options to expand operations or relocate elsewhere in Asia.

He also said there had been some companies that had been forced to downsize while others had opted to shut down altogether.

One electronics company opted to move to China and left at least 3,000 workers jobless. Its facility has since been converted into a badminton court, Lachica said.

House urged to exempt BIR from Bank Secrecy Law

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue once again has called on members of Congress to include in the tax amnesty bill the provision exempting the revenue agency from the Bank Secrecy Law.

The BIR believes that the objective of discouraging tax delinquency may not

be met if the revenue agency does not have the power to check on bank accounts of suspected tax evaders.

The Arroyo administration's proposed tax amnesty intends to plug tax leaks by encouraging underground businesses to go mainstream and become legitimate taxpayers through a one-time granting of tax discounts and immunity from suits.

In exchange for the privileges, taxpayers will be required to regularly submit their statements of assets and liabilities, through which the BIR could readily determine the accuracy of their future tax remittances.

"The problem with the tax amnesty bill is that it does not sufficiently equip us to go after tax evaders because of the Bank Secrecy Law," BIR Deputy Commissioner

Kim Henares said during an interview.

The revenue agency has been pushing for a waiver on the Bank Secrecy Law since the Arroyo administration announced it would include tax amnesty in its fiscal reform agenda, Henares said. Under the BIR proposal, the revenue agency will be required to exercise confidentiality of information pertaining to taxpayers' bank accounts.

Get genuine peace of mind.



Get genuine Hyundai MOBIS parts.

Wouldn't it be nice to know that you'll feel a sense of security every time you drive your Hyundai car? Experience this when you use only genuine Hyundai MOBIS parts. They don't break down easily and they last longer. This gives you real value for money. Plus, all genuine Hyundai MOBIS parts have a one-year warranty.*

Now, doesn't that feel better? For real peace of mind, buy only genuine Hyundai MOBIS parts from authorized dealers of Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI).



*Consumable parts are not included

Authorized HARI dealers:

HYUNDAI Alabang - Tel: (02) 800-1771, (02) 800-7344, (02) 802-3653, (02) 825-7208 • HYUNDAI Commonwealth - Tel: (02) 851-2201 to 10 • HYUNDAI Edsa - Tel: (02) 882-2432 to 33 • HYUNDAI E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave. - Tel: (02) 411-4342, (02) 412-7816 • HYUNDAI Makati - Tel: (02) 830-0010 to 17 • HYUNDAI Ortigas - Tel: (02) 723-9101 to 07 • HYUNDAI Quezon Avenue - Tel: (02) 374-3911 • Provincial Dealers: HYUNDAI Bacolod - Tel: (034) 433-0565 / 67, (034) 434-8530 • HYUNDAI Cabanatuan - Tel: (044) 464-8278 • HYUNDAI Cagayan de Oro - Tel: (088) 855-4406 to 07 • HYUNDAI Cebu - Tel: (032) 343-7102 • HYUNDAI Davao - Tel: (082) 236-2956, (082) 305-0000 • HYUNDAI Iloilo - Tel: (033) 320-2248 • HYUNDAI Laguna - Tel: (049) 520-8242 • HYUNDAI La Union - Tel: (072) 712-8881, (072) 712-8888 • HYUNDAI Pampanga - Tel: (045) 961-3234

Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) is the exclusive distributor of Hyundai vehicles and Hyundai MOBIS parts in the Philippines.



Genuine Parts

Shipping firms told to plug tax leaks

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue called on the country's shipping industry to patch up the loopholes in the tax remittances of its members which reportedly resulted in huge tax leakages.

BIR officials on Thursday met with representatives of shipping companies and encouraged them to settle their back taxes even before the BIR began auditing their books.

"We told them that based on the initial investigation made, there was really a discrepancy between the revenue they reported and the revenue we think they really earned," BIR Deputy Commissioner Kim Henares said.

The BIR was prompted to investigate the alleged tax delinquency of shipping firms after Congress released a report which claimed that there were about 55 million water trans-

port passengers in 2002, but that the combined gross revenue declared by shipping companies only amounted to P950 million.

According to Rep. Hermunio Teves, who made the exposé on the shipping industry, there was an apparent tax evasion because P950 million in revenue from 55 million passengers implied that ship fare only averaged at P40 each.

Henares said the BIR so far only had an idea of the extent of the tax delinquency of the shipping industry.

The BIR does not have the data on the amount of back taxes of each shipping company because revenue officials still have to begin auditing their books, Henares added.

The BIR official said that during Thursday's meeting, shipping representatives did not try to deny the allegation of tax leakages from their sector.

"(The shipping representatives) were saying they also suspect some companies were under-declaring their income," she said. "But of course no one admitted that his or her company was one of those that did not properly pay taxes."

Michelle V. Remo

"With My New, Natural Hair From Svenson, I Don't Have To Stay Bald!"

NOW with Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction

If you're really uncomfortable with your baldness, Svenson International offers a revolutionary hair replacement that will make you forget you were ever bald in the first place. Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction is the most advanced non-surgical hair replacement technology ever developed for baldness. It's not only a perfect match to your real hair's color and texture but it also looks, moves, and feels as natural as your own! It is totally convincing as your real hair even to a conscious probing touch. It is such a natural part of you, unlike ill-fitting and fake-looking wigs or toupees.

Come to Svenson and get the Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction advantage. Call now for a FREE consultation.

Svenson
INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

CALL 892-HAIR (4247)

MAKATI: 100 St. Paul St. Cebu: 1100 St. Paul St. Iloilo: 1100 St. Paul St. Alabang: 1100 St. Paul St. Cebu: 1100 St. Paul St.

BUSINESSMonday

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

Business Features Editor
Marge Quimpo-Espino

Four ways to fix the hunger emergency

By Dennis M. Arroyo
Contributor

HUNGER is much in the news, thanks to the August 2004 poll of Social Weather Stations.

As much as 15 percent of households experienced hunger during the last three months. That's triple the ratio seen last year. The ratio even hit 23 percent in Mindanao.

What's behind this attack of hunger? One misconception is that hunger strikes only because food supply falls short, or what is called food availability decline (FAD). This isn't necessarily so.

Nobel laureate Amartya Sen says that groups of people can go hungry even when a nation has a rich food supply. A very poor person starves because "he does not have the ability to command enough food."

Unemployment

One key is to look at the purchasing power of this vulnerable group.

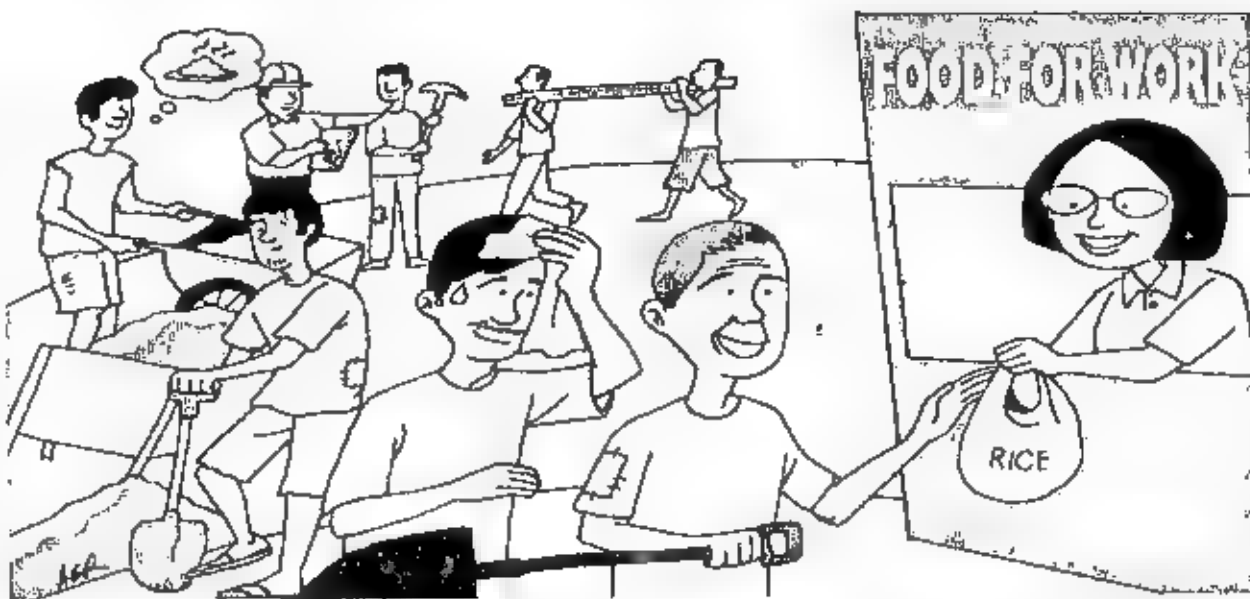
The factors to examine are (a) their income, (b) inflation in general, and (c) food prices in particular.

Going hungry is an extreme form of poverty, so it does not normally afflict those with formal sector jobs.

Their incomes reach at least the minimum wage.

And even those working in the informal sector—farmers, fishermen, sidewalk peddlers—would use their earnings to prioritize food. They are often among the ranks of the underemployed, working but wanting to get more work.

The most vulnerable sector is not the underemployed, it is the plain unemployed.



As of July 2004, the unemployment rate was 11.7 percent of the labor force.

High prices

Purchasing power has eroded because of the resurgence of inflation. Last September the inflation rate hit its highest level in 45 months.

The 6.9 percent rate is largely the effect of ballooning oil prices in the world market. Families have to contend with costlier diesel, fuel, jeepney fares, cooking gas, electricity, even Light Rail charges.

What about food prices? Rice grown by Filipino farmers is expensive—it's around double the price of that from Thailand or Vietnam.

Eating less rice

Because of the price, Filipinos eat less rice compared to their Asian neighbors. Here are estimates coming from the international rice monitor, Riceweb.org.

The following are kilos of annual rice consumption per person from select Asian nations:

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Cambodia | 169 kilos |
| Vietnam | 165 |
| Bangladesh | 150 |
| Indonesia | 149 |
| Thailand | 109 |
| Philippines | 95 |

Put it all together: high unemployment, rising prices and costly rice. What can be

done then about this hunger emergency?

Prices to remain high

The government is in a tight bind. The chaos in Iraq will likely continue. Worse, world demand for oil will rise due to the need for heating fuel in the winter months.

So oil prices will remain high and may climb even higher.

Because of the fiscal crisis, the state has no choice but to let power rates rise to realistic levels. Fees charged by state agencies must still be increased. And government offices simply can't afford to absorb all of those without a job.

Food coupons

The Department of Social Welfare and

Development (DSWD) plans to soon hand out food coupons to poor families.

The problem here is that the limited funds will likely run out after a while, for food coupons are prone to leakages.

That is, money meant for the very poor may end up spent by the less poor, drying up the funds for the former.

Fine-tuned targeting is imperative. The truly hungry would be willing to work for food, while the less poor would look for other jobs that pay better, in cash.

Food for work

There must be a more sustainable solution, and I suggest this package:

1. Prepare a hunger map, identifying the most vulnerable barangays. Because of the margins of error, the SWS hunger data are not precise at the provincial level. They should be merged with the government's data on the poorest provinces and municipal ties of the land.

2. Import and stock up on cheap (half-priced) Vietnamese and Thai rice. Distribute the supply to the DSWD branches nearest the hunger-vulnerable barangays.

3. Embark on an emergency food for work program. This is more dignified than giving dole-outs. The jobless repair roads and help build basic infrastructure in exchange for kilos of rice. This kind of deal would draw in the destitute but would not attract the less poor.

4. Charge the bill to the local governments. The provinces and cities must spend on infrastructure anyway, and the expense is small. Paying emergency workers in cheap rice requires a much smaller budget than that for the usual salaries. Comments to dennisarroyo@yahoo.com

THE FORD LYNX IN THE MIRROR COSTS ONLY P615T.

At this special cash price, the Ford Lynx GSI MT is one of the most affordable cars today. 1.6-liter DOHC 16-valve engine • All-power in-dash CD player with 4-speaker system • All-wheel disc brakes • You can also own one for only P78,000 DP or thru a 0% interest* scheme.



Applicable to 20% DP 12-month financing scheme. Promos extended until Dec. 31, 2004. Approved by DPA/RCR. For DPA/RCR Permit No. 4478, Series of 2004.
 • Ford Alabang, Inc. (043-1681) / (043-1620), Fax No. (043-1610) • Ford Balaocan, Inc. (027-9648), Fax No. (027-9788) • Ford Cebu, Inc. (032-9118) / (032-9119), Fax No. (032-9118) • Ford Davao, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Iloilo, Inc. (033-2222), Fax No. (033-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (049-2222), Fax No. (049-2222) • Ford Tagaytay, Inc. (046-2222), Fax No. (046-2222) • Ford Valenzuela, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Zamboanga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Angeles, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Bacolod, Inc. (034-2222), Fax No. (034-2222) • Ford Batangas, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Binangue, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Calapan, Inc. (043-2222), Fax No. (043-2222) • Ford Cagayan de Oro, Inc. (082-2222), Fax No. (082-2222) • Ford Dasmariñas, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Iligan, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Marikina, Inc. (044-2222), Fax No. (044-2222) • Ford Muntinlupa, Inc. (02-777-1014), Fax No. (02-777-1014) • Ford Naga, Inc. (091-2222), Fax No. (091-2222) • Ford Quezon, Inc. (052-2222), Fax No. (052-2222) • Ford San Pablo, Inc. (

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pap@inquirer.com.ph
espinoza@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Arles Espinoza

Kimbell's Pack wins in int'l label tilts

KIMBELLS Pack Inc., a local firm specializing in the design and printing of packaging and self-adhesive labels, brought honors to the country once again by bagging a number of awards in three of the most prestigious international label design competitions organized by the label associations of Europe (Finat), Australia (Latma), and North America (TLM).

In the Finat competition and out of the 210 entries vying for the 26 traditional category awards this year, Kimbell's won for the multi-layered and complex Tanday "150 Years" promo label as well as for the intricately crafted Kely Elis "Neozone Amazing 12" label. Based in The Hague, Netherlands, Finat counts more than 500 members from 40 countries around the world.

In the Latma competition, out of the 23 awards given out this year, Kimbell's garnered five, including Tanday's "150 Years", Del Monte's 202, Pascual Labora-

tory's Betadine, RDE's Whitening Lotion violator and Bench's Styling and Hair Treatment violator.

Then following Finat and Latma, Kimbell's was recently informed that four of its entries won in another competition organized by Chicago-based TMLI, the biggest association of its kind in North America. Joining the competition for the first time, Kimbell's has been cited for its Tanday "150 Years" promo label, with the other three to be formally announced on Oct. 26.

Since 1978, Kimbell's Pack has been consistently winning awards in foreign competitions for its designs and executions of labels for local products. It is the first company in the Asian region to win awards from three different international associations practically every year.

Kimbell's president Henry Tiu says the awards are not only an honor for his company or for the men and women behind it, but



TIU RECEIVES a plaque from one of the 2004 Finat organizers during the awarding ceremonies held in Copenhagen, Denmark. Inset is Pascual Laboratory's winning label.

for the country as well. Tiu believes he has made the first step in proving to the world that the Philippines can be globally competitive in the field of commercial art and design and hopes others will follow suit.



STUDY GROUP INDUCTED

VAdm Ariston V. delos Reyes, AFP Vice Chief of Staff and concurrent chair, AFP Technical Working Group for Legislative Affairs, administers the induction of members of the study group composed of selected representatives from the AFP major ser-

vices T-AG, Otag, AFPFC and J1. Chaired by Comm. Reynaldo T. Basilio, the study group will conduct studies and research to come up with a legislative initiative to push for the separation of the pension and retirees fund from the DND.



PLDT LAUNCHES CEBU INNOVATION

PLDT recently launched its InnoLab, or the Innovation Laboratory and Telecommunications Education Center, in Cebu City. InnoLab is a place where research and development projects can be implemented involving technologies and solutions for clients' communications needs, and for industry-academe-government research collaboration. It is also a place where PLDT can showcase its cutting-edge solutions to clients. Shown here demonstrating biometric identification technology during the launching were, from left, Sec-

Virgilio Pena of the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT), PLDT CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno, Cebu City Administrator Juancho Montecillo, PLDT NTT advisor Shigeru Yoshida, Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Robert Go, PLDT SVP and corporate business group head Ernesto R. Abanto, president of Cebu Educational Development Foundation for Information Technology Consul Sabino Dapal, and PLDT SVP and business development head Arnel A. Roda.

Research institute for neglected diseases opens in Singapore

MORE than a third of the world's population is infected with tuberculosis (TB), and about 2.5 billion people worldwide are at risk of contracting dengue fever.

These alarming statistics have prompted researchers worldwide to reassess the way they look at the so-called neglected diseases and come up with breakthrough compounds that can help treat and combat these diseases.

To help reduce the burden of neglected diseases, pharmaceutical company Novartis AG announced recently the opening of the Novartis Institute for Tropical Diseases (NITD) in the state-of-the-art Biopolis research facility in Singapore. With the goal of advancing biomedical research for

neglected diseases, initially dengue fever and drug resistant TB, the institute aims to have at least two compounds in clinical trials by 2008 and one novel and attractive compound available to patients by 2012. The pharmaceutical company conceptualized the noble idea of making these treatments available without profit for countries where they are endemic.

Currently, TB has unfortunately become resistant to most antibiotics used today to treat the disease, with very little research into new treatment options for many years. The same goes for dengue fever, no major discovery effort has been directed to new treatments despite significant un-



met medical need. The establishment of the NITD in Singapore is seen to benefit developing countries like the Philippines where neglected diseases like tuberculosis and dengue are endemic.



A-PLUS AWARDED OUTSTANDING QUALITY-VALUE PAINT

FH Colors & Coatings Corp. through its flagship brand A-Plus House Paint was awarded Outstanding Quality-Value Paint at the 15th Annual National Consumers Awards night Aug. 27 at Le Pavillon. Shown accepting the award from lawyer Quirino Larquina, president of the Consumers Union of the Philip-

pines, are Rene Estanislao, senior manager, Sherwin Ko, market development manager, Angel Belizario, production manager, Grace Lombos, assistant manager, Rose Gallana, plant manager, and Gemmar Gibe, research and development head.

Ice-maker on exhibit

A KOREAN product designed for Filipino small and medium-scale entrepreneurs will be introduced to the Philippines in an

exhibition in Glorietta, Makati, from Oct. 11 to 13. The product is a machine that makes soft "snow" or ultra fine ice that can be used for a wide

variety of drinks and meals.

It was developed by Vision Scientific Co Ltd and has already become a hit in South Korea because its product is smoother and, as such, more enjoyable. James S. Kim, president of Altair International Trading Corp (AITC), exclusive distributor of the machine, said the ice-making machine is simple to operate and make an average of 800 drinks or dishes a day, and can be operated by a single person and does not require big space. Call Joy Bando at 634-4424, or e-mail art@eastern.com.ph.

DAP's 1st grad program

THE DEVELOPMENT Academy of the Philippines, through its Graduate School of Public and Development Management, is offering its first Productivity and Quality Management graduate education program this year. Related to the Certificate Courses offered are Customer Satisfaction and Relationship Management from Oct. 11 to 19 and Strategic Human Re-



INK-MAN FRANCHISE SIGNING

Ink-Man Ventures Inc. recently inked a franchise contract with Mubarak Cheema (middle) for the establishment of an Ink-Man Ink Refilling Center in Naga City, Camarines Sur Bicol

province. Shown signing the contract with Cheema is Ink-Man Ventures Inc. managing director Jhun Tizon, while franchise sales consultant Nandito Dignas (right) witnesses the signing.

'The Palawan Experience' in tour packages

THIS year, The Palawan Experience (PAX), The Legend Hotel's exclusive tour package to the country's last nature frontier, is available in two special packages to traveling families and couples on a tour.

Billed as the Palawan experience with family bonding that matters, PAX has put together a special family package at P7,999 net per adult where up to two kids, aged below 11 years old and sharing bed with adult companions, are free on tour fees and meals. It is inclusive of a 3-day 2-night room accommodation based on twin sharing at The Legend Hotel Palawan, full board meals with option to dine on the second night, a half-day Honda Bay island cruise aboard the MB Legend of the Sea on day 1, an underground river adventure on day 2, tour host services, welcome drinks, and roundtrip airport transfers.

A couple package ideal for honeymooners

or for pairs who simply want to spend a great time together is offered at P6,999 net per person. It also includes a Honda Bay island cruise, underground river adventure, 3-day 2-night stay at The Legend Hotel Palawan, all meals with an option to dine on the second night, tour host services, welcome drinks and roundtrip airport transfers.

The Honda Bay island cruise comes with an early launch at the hotel and fun activities such as snorkeling and fish feeding. The whole-day underground river adventure includes a side trip to the Vietnam Village and lunch at Taraw lodge in Sabang Beach.

For reservations and information, call the Manila sales office at 638-9256 and 58, or visit the Legend Villas at 60 Pioneer corner Madison Streets, Mandaue, or log on to www.experiencepalawan.com.ph or www.legendhotels.com.ph

Product FILES

Monster truck

THE CUSTOMIZED Ford F-150 of Wheel Gallery-MKW won top honors in the recently concluded Sport Truck and Custom Car Show at SM Megamall. Boasting of a Geiger-inspired "Alien" visual paint graphics by Airart Asia and Spy Design, and paint by K-92, the F-150's stunning exterior is wrapped in a specially designed widened body by A-Toy Bodykits, tuned suspension by Bilstein, HID headlights from Xenon bulbs, Audio-Video set up from Pioneer, speakers by Bose acoustimass, leather interior by Equipt, and rides on massive 24x10-inch chrome MKW wheels shod in 24-inch BF Goodrich tires. Also part of the project F150 are Meguiar's, Winner Car Graphics, Fremuff, Jetcat, Dub Magazine and Hummer Philippines.

The F-150 garnered the Best in Show Sport Truck, Best Body Kit, Best Wheels, Best American Truck and Best Conversion.



"This pick-up truck represents the teamwork of the best custom builders in the automotive aftermarket industry. When good quality products are fused together with the right idea, it is really hard to beat," states Sammy Luison of Wheel Gallery. For details about the truck, visit www.conceptnewwheels.com.

source from Nov. 15 to 23. Interested parties can call 631-2167 or 631-0921 to 30 local 167 telefax 631-2119 and look for Nancy Paredes or Lily Nangca.

Pets in paintings

ANIMAL and art lovers alike would definitely enjoy a unique experience of viewing art paintings of pets and other ani-



Joselle is 4

JOSELLE Lou Airlis Angeles Olaz, youngest daughter of Aristo and Lourdes Olaz, celebrates her fourth birthday on Wednesday, Oct. 13 at the family residence in Manila.



Dimensions of the fiscal problem

THE GOVERNMENT'S deficit has stayed above 4 percent of Gross Domestic Product. To correct the imbalance, savings should be increased from current levels.

Instead of channeling increases in private savings to more productive uses, these are instead used to finance not government investment but actually government consumption. Investment for the whole economy has actually been dropping notwithstanding the increase in private savings.

This trend will, however, have implications for banks as well as stability of the financial system. If the deficit were due to government spending on basic services and infrastructure facilities, it may be less of a problem as we would reap the benefits of these expenditures over time.

The deficit problem, however, is due to inability to raise the needed revenues as seen in the declining tax effort.

Because of the inability to raise

needed revenues, government has been resorting to expenditure cuts to tame the budget deficit. Government expenditures have been maintained at roughly around 20 percent since 1997.

Unfortunately, there is very little expenditure left to cut those representing expenditures on salaries and service, transfers to LGUs and the like—about 90 percent is non-discretionary.

The government is not able to spend enough on basic goods and services such as education and health, and is not able to invest sufficiently in infrastructure.

RP lags the rest of the region in capital expenditures. Without revenues and little flexibility to cut expenditures, the government is set to resort to borrowing to plug the deficit.

A comparison of government debt as a percentage of revenues rather than just as a deficit of GDP shows an even worse situation. RP

MAPPING THE FUTURE



By Romeo L. Bernardo

pays public debt not with GDP—RP pays with revenues.

A declining revenue also translates into higher overall borrowing costs. This affects not only government, something that we in the private sector feel as well. This affects our cost of borrowing and at the end of the day, the cost of services that we provide.

With the banks heavily investing in government securities, there is a risk of fiscal stress being transmitted into the banking sector.

On the foreign denominated issues, it's estimated that 25-40 percent of outstanding ROPs are held by the local banks. This translates to something like P9B of the P14B

PCDU investments being in ROPs.

RP fiscal situation is compounded by its exposure to various contingent liabilities, which at any time can cause further damage to RP's fiscal health.

We just witnessed this in RP's absorption of some P500 billion of Napocor's debt. The actual accumulation in debts has really been far higher than what the national government could explain.

So there remains a large gap. I think it's about 25 percent on average every year. It's rather about much more than the 150 percent additional deficit.

The day before yesterday, it was PNB and DBP that cost the accumulation in the public sector debt. Yesterday, it was the central bank debt problems, today is Napocor and maybe tomorrow, it could be the needed adjustments in the pension funds.

It's quite clear that the fiscal situation is serious and requires action

now to prevent further escalation of the debt which, if not done, can take on a life of its own. The key to ensuring debt sustainability is to keep the debt to GNP ratio constant by running sufficient primary surpluses.

Based on former Socio-Economic Planning Secretary Philip Medalla's assessment, RP needs to achieve a primary surplus of between 1.5-3 percent of GNP to prevent the debt ratio from going up (1 percent of GDP is roughly about P50 billion).

Over the past three years, the highest primary surplus attained by government was only about 0.6 percent of GDP. The good news is that it's not impossible (to increase this) as government in the mid 90s has obtained surpluses of around 2 percent, and not just primary, but the bottom line surplus.

While improving tax administration is always good, the government cannot rely on this to produce the needed results.

Over 95 percent of tax collec-

tion is really based on self-assessment. The challenge before the BIR is to be able to change the risk-reward trade off. It requires change in peoples' attitudes, something that cannot be done in a very short period.

There was also a structural erosion in the revenue base. For example, excise taxes and fuel taxes which used to account for 2.6 percent of GDP are now only about 1.3 percent of GDP because of a lot of indexation.

Government really cannot rely on tax administration only in order to produce the needed results.

The only way forward is for government to raise its revenues especially the tax effort through legislation. These kinds of new taxes will have to have a high yield, should also be as neutral as possible, if targeted at a specific sector, for example telecommunications, it has to have clear economic

DIMENSIONS/B2-5

THE COUNTRY'S FIRST INDEX-TRACKER MUTUAL FUND REMAINS BULLISH OVER THE MEDIUM TERM

The local stock market remained generally upbeat during the 3rd quarter as buying momentum for fundamentally attractive stocks continued to drive the local bourse upwards. By September, the Phisix closed at 1,761.57, up by 1.53% for the 3Q and up 22.13% year to date. Given the positive investor sentiment in the market, The Philippine Index Fund (PIF) proves to be the best bet in investing in Philippine equities delivering a phenomenal return of 27.68% (YTD absolute as of October 6, 2004), outperforming all other equity mutual fund returns posting an average return of 14.85%.

BPI Asset Management and Trust Group (BPI AMTG), the fund manager of PIF, remains positive in their outlook for the stock market in the medium term given strong corporate earnings growth, the resurgence of foreign fund inflows and the expected passage of revenue generating tax measures which would improve the government's fiscal position. While the PHISIX has recently broken above 1800 level, a 4-yr high, this is positive indication as it is now poised to re-test the 2100 level providing a potential upside of 19% from end-September prices.

Philippine Index Fund, the country's first and only index tracker mutual fund, provides an alternative for equity investors who believe in the potential of the domestic equities market at the same time enjoying risk diversity as well as low entry costs. Designed to mimic the movements of the PHISIX (Philippine Stock Exchange Composite Index), PIF has been successful in tracking the returns of the index while taking advantage of the bottoming out of the market in the 4th quarter of 2002, translating to an impressive 42.2% ROI for 2003. As the forerunner of index-tracker funds in the country, PIF is currently the only mutual fund in the country to be granted by the Securities and Exchange Commission an exemption from the 20% diversification limit imposed on local mutual funds, thus enabling it to mirror the exact weightings of the issues as contained in the PHISIX. PIF started with just PhP58.5Mn in net asset value in December 2002 but has already grown to PhP381Mn by end of September 2004.

PIF is expected to tap a larger retail market of long-term equity investors while at the same time creating greater awareness on equity investing among small individual investors. This is because with a minimum investment of only P50,000 during the initial offer period, investors are a ready effect vely investing in a diversified portfolio of 33 stocks comprising the PHISIX, with the lowest fees and commissions compared with investing in PHISIX stocks on their own and without the hassle of daily individual stock monitoring. Employing the distribution network of licensed mutual fund sales agents of BPI Capital Corporation, BPI Investment Management, Inc., and BPI Securities Corporation, PIF is expected to provide support to the domestic capital markets through its availability to investors of modest means.

ADVT

CATCH THE NEXT BULL RUN.



Invest in the Philippine Index Fund



PHILIPPINE INDEX FUND

Efficient distribution brings quality products at stable prices

EVER wonder why even if you're in a seafood restaurant anywhere in Metro Manila or a little further south in Cavite, you get to eat your favorite grilled tuna panga or belly from General Santos City like it were just hauled off from the sea?

At a fishing village cum restaurant in the historic town of Kawit in Cavite, diners can't seem to have enough of the grilled tuna. The dish, says its youthful owner, is the restaurant's bestseller. Though his supply of tuna still comes from GenSan, it is delivered to his place still sea-fresh. "I don't know how they do it, but what I am only most concerned about is the quality of the fish I get," he says.

Elsewhere in Luzon, housewives enjoy buying right in their neighborhood market fresh fruits grown in Davao, the sweetest corn harvested in GenSan, or vegetables or fresh beef and pork carved out of livestock transported from Bukidnon.

A new mode of shipping transportation called Road Roll-On Roll-Off Terminal System (RRTS), a flagship program of President Macapagal-Arroyo, is making possible a faster and more efficient movement of people and goods between islands and ports. Now it takes shorter time for the produce of Mindanao to reach Manila and other parts of Luzon.

How RRTS works

This is how RRTS works. The trader or his driver drives any vehicle containing cargo into the ship via a ramp and, at the port of destination, disembarks inside the same vehicle carrying the goods, and motors off to the trader's business address.

As the system doesn't require off-loading from trucks, the cargo arrives at the port of destination with less damage, if none at all, and at lower handling cost. With these advantages, the trader is able to sell the products fresh or in good quality at a stable price to a greater market.

RRTS is one of three components of the government's Sustainable Logistics Development Program (SLDP). The other two are the grains highway and cold chain. The food highway takes care of the better transport of grains, fruits, vegetables, fish, chicken and other perishable items.

Being active partners of SLDP, both the land and shipping transportation sectors have sought more government support in the area of infrastructure development. In the case of the maritime sector, it has asked for the up-

grading of local ports, preferential tax rates like those presently enjoyed by domestic airlines and overseas shipping, and further liberalization of policies and regulations.

Capital spending

Presently, capital spending on roads is on the downward trend with a 2004 backlog amounting to P65 billion, while domestic ports, according to the shipping sector, are in a sorry state and cannot guarantee maximum security of people and cargo unlike airports.

The domestic maritime industry has also urged the government to further liberalize the cargo handling system in the country and to produce facilities for bulk shipments that would enable its ships to link up with international logistics network the way Clark and Subic have a center for logistics in the region.

RRTS, backstopped by a no-nonsense infrastructure development support, provides the key to solving the problem of manufacturing firms of how to deliver goods from the points of production to destination by more than a third. According to an AIM professor, the actual production itself eats up a mere 30 percent of lead time. It is inbound and outbound logistics that account for customers' waiting time; the bulk of operation costs, therefore, is due to the sourcing and delivering goods, he explained.

Logistics is the process of planning, implementing and controlling the efficient and effective flow and storage of goods, services and related information from point of origin to point of consumption for the purpose of conforming to customer requirements.

Each firm participating in the supply chain must try to achieve superior logistical performance to effect positive gains in terms of quality, cost, timeliness and efficiency, according to the Transport and Logistics Center.

Distribution plays an important part in the nation's economic progress. Thus, as a trading nation, it needs an efficient and cost-effective system of goods distribution by air, land and sea. Toward this end, the government has embarked on a vigorous infrastructure development program. Lack of budget, however, has prodded the government to ask the support of the private sector in this concern.

Study finds out how many ads viewers can tolerate in an hour

By Abigail L. Ho

HOW MANY times have you sat in front of your TV set wishing there will be fewer commercials?

Whether you're a fan of TV commercials or a voracious TV addict who just wants his daily dose of telenovelas, an ongoing study on the amount of advertisements a normal human being can tolerate may just lead to more balanced decisions on commercial minutes in the future.

The Advertising Board of the Philippines (AdBoard)—an umbrella organization of advertising agencies, advertisers and media and advertising services groups—commissioned a study that will serve as a basis in regulating the number of advertising minutes that can be loaded on TV programs every hour.

Depending on the result of the study, Philippine Association of National Advertisers (Pana) president Raul Alvarez says the number of advertising minutes for every hour of programming can go below or above the existing 18-minute standard. Or stay the same.

The six-week study, being conducted by the Market Opinion and Research Society of the Philippines Inc. (Mores), tackles the correlation between advertising clutter and product recall as well as consumers' attitude toward and perception of TV ads.

The first part of the study aims to show whether or not findings of a study done in 1995 still hold true, even after nine years of technology advances and some culture evolution.

The 1995 study showed that advertising clutter was seen as an "intrusion" to TV viewing. This then led viewers to leave the room, switch channels or just not pay attention when TV commercials were playing.

As a result, the opportunity to see advertising messages became lower, leading to even lower product recall.

More options

Alvarez says the ongoing study should present various options to the advertising world, not just in terms of



MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando and Adboard chair Carge Ramonde.

JOSEPH AGCAORI

how many minutes of commercials should be present in every hour of programming but also how these commercial minutes should be spread to gain maximum value out of them.

"There's a possibility that it can go lower (than the current 18-minute standard loading), stay the same or go higher. There can even be a range, depending on the program. The results of the study will determine this," he says.

He adds it was even possible for some shows to have more allowable commercial minutes than others, although the number of minutes should fall within an approved range.

The ongoing study, he says, should help all concerned stakeholders to gain maximum return from their ads while ensuring that consumers' perception of TV ads did not deteriorate.

The results of the study will be available by mid-November.

Abiding by the rules

While waiting for the study's results, AdBoard member-organizations Pana and the Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies (4As) agreed to comply with the standard 18-minute commercial load limit for every hour of TV programming.

"In the spirit of self-regulation, we are encouraging all Pana members, together with our partner ad agencies and media independents, to observe

the 18-minute rule until results of the ongoing AdBoard study are released," Alvarez says.

To ensure strict compliance with the 18-minute rule, he says all advertising materials that would be sent to TV networks for telecast would have a caveat that if these would be beyond the 18-minute rule, these should no longer be shown.

Certain "unwritten" sanctions would be enforced if these warnings go unheeded, he says.

For one, the advertiser could demand additional spots, treating the commercial aired beyond the 18-minute rule as a commercial that was supposed to be aired but was never aired.

Another sanction could be non-payment for the aired spot if it came onscreen after 18 minutes of TV commercials had already been played on a program hour.

Policing other media

Alvarez says television was not the only medium that advertisers would work on uncluttering.

"We will also do a clutter study for print. We're just prioritizing now. We're just doing TV first," he says.

As of now, no studies on determining print media clutter and how these affect consumer perception and product recall are in the pipeline.

3 dream machines. 3 easy-own schemes. Fulfill your fantasy.

FRONTIER!
P107,800*
downpayment



| 4x2 MT (STD) 2.7E | 4x2 MT (Elev) 2.7E | 4x4 AT (Elev) 3.3AT |
|---|---|--|
| SRP- P739,000 | SRP- P865,000 | SRP- P960,000 |
| LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P147,800 | LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P173,000 | LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P192,000 |
| Actual Cash Out P107,800 | Actual Cash Out P133,000 | Actual Cash Out P152,000 |
| LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P7,927 | LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P9,441 | LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P10,582 |
| ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 20% 18 Months - 50% | ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 20% 18 Months - 50% | ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 20% 18 Months - 50% |

PATROL!
P368,000*
downpayment



| AT Gas | AT Diesel | MT Diesel |
|--|--|--|
| SRP- P2,425,000 | SRP- P2,335,000 | SRP- P2,240,000 |
| LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P485,000 | LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P467,000 | LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P446,000 |
| Actual Cash Out P405,000 | Actual Cash Out P387,000 | Actual Cash Out P368,000 |
| LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P27,231 | LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P26,150 | LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P25,008 |
| ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 50% | ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 50% | ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 50% |

URVAN!
P150,000*
downpayment



| Nissan Urvan Escapade | Nissan Urvan Shuttle/VX |
|--|--|
| SRP- P990,000 | SRP- P950,000 |
| LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P198,000 | LOW DOWNPAYMENT 20% Downpayment P190,000 |
| Actual Cash Out P158,000 | Actual Cash Out P150,000 |
| LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P10,943 | LOW MONTHLY Based on 50% DIP at 60 months P10,462 |
| ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 20% 18 Months - 50% | ZERO INTEREST 12 Months - 20% 18 Months - 50% |

Special financing offer now
available for
Frontier Titanium
and 4x4 pick-ups.
(excluding 4x4 standard variant)

EXTENDED
UNTIL OCT. 15 ONLY!

Promo until Oct. 15, 2004 only. Approved by DTI-NCR.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4732 series of 2004

NISSAN

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

* Based on actual cash out of 20% low downpayment.
Subject to bank approval.

50
Universal
Motors
Corporation

PARTICIPATING DEALERS: METRO MANILA: CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Mabini) 2332 Don Chino Flores Ave. - Mabini City, Tel. Nos. 810-8161 / 812-7538 / 818-4598 / 892-6217 • (Quezon Ave.) Tel. Nos. 742-5182 / 743-1629 / 35 / 38 • NISSAN GALLERY-ORTIGAS 80 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libas, Q.C., Tel. Nos. 833-2545 / 835-5888 / 438-4528 to 40 • NISSAN NORTH EDSA 1174 EDSA Uptown Square, Baintan, Quezon City, Tel. Nos. 485-8860 / 330-5331 to 50 • NISSAN COMMONWEALTH, INC. 41 Commonwealth Avenue, Binigay Holy Spirit, Delmont, Quezon City, Tel. Nos. 832-0428 / 532-4001 • MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP. 2278 Pasong Tama East, Marikina City, Tel. Nos. 843-3315 / 23 / 518-4598 / 511-7701 • LUZON DEALERS: ROYCE MOTOR CENTER, INC. Calabarzon City (Km. 112 Marikina Highway, Tel. Nos. 482-7218 / 12 Bantay Tel. No. 6781 882 8701 (San Fernando) Tel. No. 6451 961-7774 • WISAKAS DEALERS: BAI MOTORS, INC. E. Lopez St., Boto City, Tel. No. (033) 326-4064 • BULO CAN CORPORATION 38 Lupa St., La Paz, Iloilo City, Tel. Nos. 8333 328-2248 / 320-2084 / 329-1188 • NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC. M.L. Quezon Ave. Briguay, Tel. Nos. 4032 348-8422 to 25 / 348-0008 to 07 / 348-0358 / 348-1124 / 348-8438 / 345-1450 • PDS MARKETING INT., INC. Avenida St., Singapoor, Bacolod City, Tel. Nos. 833-6 433-8761 / 434-2521 • MINDANAO DEALERS: DAVAO UNICAR CORP. d. P. Laurel Ave., (Davao City) Tel. No. (808) 231-1814 / 118-118 (San. Santos City) Tel. No. (803) 562-3228 • NISSAN CAGAYAN DE ORO DISTRIBUTORS, INC. Cagayan de Oro City, Tel. Nos. (88822) 732-872 / 733-4444 / 1088 838-3558

3
YEAR
WARRANTY
ON M/L

Trust group says your money can go a long way

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

HOW FAR can your P50,000 go?

According to the Bank of the Philippine Islands' (BPI) Asset Management and Trust Group (AMTG), it may go a long way.

AMTG officials have suggested that, rather than buying a cellular phone with your well-earned money, why not dip your feet into stocks?

AMTG has set up the Philippine Index Fund (PIF), has created the country's first index tracker fund to provide an alternative for equity investors who believe in the potential of the local stock market.

The AMTG, one of the biggest fund managers in the country, uses its network of licensed mutual fund sales agents in BPI Capital Corp., BPI Investment Management Inc., and BPI Securities Corp., to sell stocks under the Philippine Index Fund.

AMTG officials expect that the low minimum initial investment amount—say your P50,000—will open the door to a larger retail

market of long-term equity investors when they introduce the stock market to these small individual investors.

PIF draws its inspiration from the first United States index tracker fund, the Vanguard 500 Index Fund, which the Vanguard Core Management Group created in 1976.

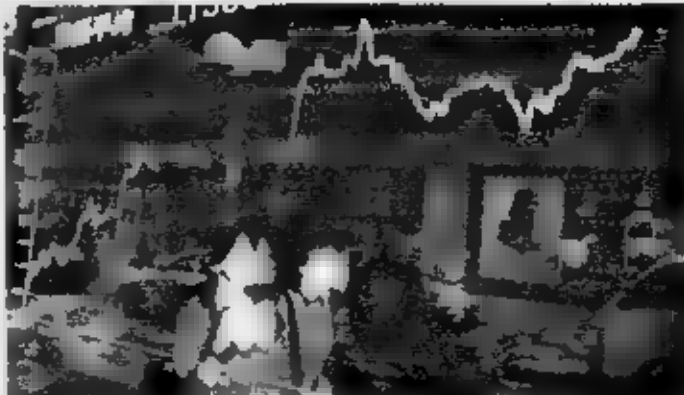
The Vanguard Fund had an initial value of \$11.4 million and tracks the S&P 500 index.

Now, the indexing giant has 37 index-tracker funds with \$296 billion in assets under its wing. The massive users of these funds in the US are usually state pension funds.

At home, the stock market is generally considered off limits to the faint-hearted.

But with the PIF, the AMTG says that the risk is cut to a minimum because the fund managers will put your money in all 33 stocks that make up the Philippine Stock Exchange composite index (Phisix).

The fund mimics the movement of the Phisix. Last year, fol-



THE COUNTRY'S first index tracker fund aims to provide an alternative for equity investors who believe in the potential of the local stock market.

lowing its soft launch, the PIF managed to come up with decent returns of as much as 42.2 percent.

The fund started with just P58.5 million in net asset value in December 2002 and has grown to P340 million as of August this year.

The fund is also headed by experts who manage a fixed income fund worth P20.5 billion, and a

dollar fund worth P4 billion.

"It's a better alternative for investors who may not have the time to invest individually," said Adelbert Legasto, AMTG head.

When asked whether the PIF would directly compete with brokers, Legasto replied: "No, it would even encourage more investments in the market."

Some brokers say an investor can actually beat the index by in-

vesting in selected stocks that you expect to make sharper gains than the whole market. But when an investor puts his money in this type of mutual fund, he can just sit down, relax and watch his investments grow.

BPI AMTG also makes it easier for the investor to park his money in this mutual fund because it watches the market everyday.

"Sometimes you wonder what stocks to invest in," Legasto said. "(Other brokers) don't accept P50,000 as an investment since it is not substantial enough to entertain. Here, you simply go to BPI and kami na bahala don (we'll take care of the rest)."

While many see the stock market as being more volatile than other financial markets—and therefore riskier—the market still has the potential to offer better returns.

"Last year we had a return of 42 percent and, year to date, it's 20 percent," Legasto said.

The fund manager sees the index challenging the 1,900 level this year, with net foreign buying

at P17 billion for September alone, and an increased daily turnover of P607 million.

So, is it too late to jump into the market? Not according to the BPI fund managers.

Fired up by hopes of stronger corporate earnings and the passage of revenue-generating tax laws to plug the budget leaks the Phisix had been climbing steadily these past few weeks, breaching record highs. Recently, the index touched a new four-and-a-half year high, accompanied by growing trade volumes.

"Although investors continue to accumulate stocks with strong fundamentals on second semester good earnings expectations, investment experts are expecting periodic market corrections," the BPI AMTG said. "These normal occurrences seen after continuous run-ups in the market afford an accumulation window for investors."

As the fund managers at BPI AMTG would like to say, "don't get left behind, catch the next bull run."

Dimensions ...

From page B2-3

nomic rationale.

Among government's proposed measures that should be endorsed are: (1) Two-step EVAT; (2) Indexation of sin taxes; (3) Excise tax on petroleum products and (4) Rationalization of fiscal incentives.

The other measures that BIR Commissioner Parayno is already working on to improve collections, such as the creation of a performance driven system for revenue agencies and the increase in administrative reforms, also need to be supported.

In conclusion, while the fiscal problem is serious, it is not insurmountable. What is needed is for the government to act now with a credible package of tax measures that signals its intent to solve the problem. If we don't do this, we will be faced instead with non-elective surgery not too distantly.

(Speech delivered by the author, a former finance undersecretary, now president of Lazaro Bernardo Tiu and Associates Inc., during the Aug. 9 MAP general membership meeting. Feedback at mapsec@globenet.com.ph)

Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!

Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.



Cut your cost of sticker-making!



Personage Stickers



T-shirt Transfers



Product ID Labels



Merchandising Labels



Auto decals

Print single decal or bulk quantities cost-effectively.

- ZERO COST on color separation
- ZERO COST on die-cutting
- ZERO COST on lamination

Exclusive Distributor:

Tsi Ai
TEAM GRAPHICS

Tel: 723-0801 to 10, 726-3981 to 88
Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tsiai.com.ph
www.tsiai.com.ph

Other Tsi Ai business packages include: Vinyl Banners for POC on Drive-in, Roll-up Banners for signposting, Pop-up Signs for temporary use, etc. Also for ID card printing, Photo Studio setup, etc. For more information, please contact us at 723-0801 to 10, 726-3981 to 88.

PSBank

PREMIUM CHECKING

3 values in 1
So premium you get more!



Easy Tracking

Comes with a Record Book that you can update in any PSBank branch. Reconciling your transactions is made easier as the check number you issued appears in the Record Book. It's like having a statement of account anytime.



Accessibility

Access cash day and night thru any Bancnet ATM nationwide and Cirrus ATM worldwide. Use it also as a debit card to shop and pay in affiliated establishments here and abroad.



Convenience

Quickly encash checks, make deposits, and do other transactions in any of our branches with our Electronic Signature Verification System. You'll get personalized service in all of our 121 branches nationwide.

What's more, it's a checking account that earns interest too.
That's Premium Checking for you!



OPEN AN ACCOUNT NOW.

Visit any of our 121 branches nationwide.
Call (02) 845-0025 for inquiries or
E-mail us at info@psbank.com.ph



PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A MTRBANK SUBSIDIARY

Working harder
for you.



Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00

PSBank Center, 777 Pasco de Roxas cor. Sedaño St., Makati City • www.psbank.com.ph



Cannes 2005: The Hunt Begins

By Celine R. Madamba

After a week-long celebration of the world's finest ads in 2004, "Cannes Lions in Manila" has finally ended but not without a challenge posed to the Philippine advertising industry.

After five days of showcasing some 300 winning entries in outdoor and print ads, television, and direct mail through exhibits, public screenings and special forums, does the industry now have the passion and commitment it needs to win the country's first Gold Lion next year?

According to Ayala Corporation President Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II, keynote speaker at the opening ceremony, "there is no reason why the Philippines cannot carve its own niche in the global arena, especially in the creative arts and advertising, given the natural competitive edge we possess."

That edge, Zobel de Ayala contends, consists of innovative talent, our proficiency in English, high literacy levels, adaptability, and an openness to western culture. He believes that exposure to global trends and practices through events like Cannes Lions in Manila will help Filipinos "assimilate new and fresh perspectives that can complement and even highlight the uniqueness of our own culture."

"It is in benchmarking ourselves against the best in the world that we get a better sense of where we really are and what we ought to do to improve and raise previously set standards,"

emphasized Zobel de Ayala. "The global market leaves us a choice to either seize its opportunities or be left marginalized."

Besting more than 18,705 entries all over the world, the Lion winners represent today's standards of creative excellence and world-class advertising in the field of print, outdoor, TV, and direct marketing. With less than 3% of entries usually making it, winning a Cannes Lion is an incredible feat.

For more than 60 countries who participate in Cannes every year, it becomes a source of national pride. For advertisers, it demonstrates the effectiveness and universality of their communication messages and branding campaigns. For agencies, it is clearly an affirmation of creative genius that earns them both respect from clients and a reputation in the industry.

According to Terry Savage, CEO of the Cannes International Advertising Festival, "the ability for agencies to win in a variety of countries establishes their ability to cross borders and show they understand different cultures and in doing so they improve their potential in a pitch. It also shows they are at the top of their field in an area of product differentiations."

Since the inception of the Cannes International Advertising Festival in 1954, the Philippines has only won a bronze Lion in the area of direct marketing for BCD Pinpoint's "Dos por Dos" campaign created for the Philippine Animal Welfare Society.

To rally the industry towards greater creative achievements in

a global scale, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the country's official Cannes Festival Representative, and the Advertising Board of the Philippines staged "Cannes Lions in Manila."

"Like an architect and a developer, the agency and the client have to create synergy which will fulfill their individual objectives at the same time a common vision. Through this event, we hope to have inspired them towards establishing the Philippines as the center of creative excellence in Asia," stated Inquirer President Sandy Prieto-Romualdez.

While this aspiration may seem distant given the country's single win at Cannes, creative directors, marketing professionals and agency heads agree that the arrival of Cannes winners in the Philippines is paving the way for genuine transformation in the advertising mindsets of agencies, clients and the general public.

"Up until the Cannes Lions in Manila, we have never had the chance to talk to much less explain to our clients the value of winning a creative award," stated Micky Domingo, Executive Creative Director of McCann Erickson Philippines. "Any effort to win was dismissed as a self-indulgent exercise which served the purpose of merely massaging one's ego. There was no talk about how an award-winning ad could do wonders for brands and the people behind them. Sure, maybe only a few heard the message. And fewer still will accept the idea. The important thing is that the word has been planted."

According to DDB Philippines Executive Creative Director Roger Pe, "it was the best thing that ever happened to the ad industry. Things like Cannes in Manila come once only in a blue moon or once in our lifetime. I



OPENING ceremony at Greenbelt Park

asked all my staff to go on the last day of the exhibit. For bringing the Cannes winners to Manila, the Philippine Daily Inquirer made sense to all of us creatives in the industry."

TBWA Managing Partner Tong Puno, believes that the greatest impact of the event was the "dissemination among clients and agencies alike that Cannes is the ultimate barometer for advertising creativity" but states that "it is now up to these parties to make potential gold winners for themselves in the country."

The next Cannes International Advertising Festival will be in June 2005 in Cannes, France. According to Savage, the keyword for Cannes in 2005 is "Evolution" with new innovations such as the inclusion of a radio category for the first time in 2005 (Design and PR categories have been moved to 2006) and a Production Showcase giving production companies an opportunity to highlight their work.

In light of these developments, the Philippine Daily Inquirer together with the Advertising Board of the Philippines has vowed to help the industry in its quest for the country's first Gold Lion. Additional forums and screenings are in the pipeline while an information campaign has been launched to generate interest and participation in next year's festival.

According to Chairman Cerge Remonde of the Advertising Board of the Philippines, the Ad Board is committed to the growth of the advertising industry and has allocated P500,000 to send the country's first team to the Cannes Young Creatives Competition next year and P100,000 for each winning entry from the Philippines, whether bronze, silver, gold, or Grand Prix.

For the first time in 2005, the Philippines will also have a judge on the Cannes Press &



ZOBEL de Ayala



REMONDE

Outdoor jury to be nominated by the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Indeed, "Cannes Lions in Manila" may be over but the hunt for creative excellence has just begun.



INQUIRER director and Print Town president Dennis Valdes with Inquirer president and CEO Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, French Ambassador Ramee Veyret, and Inquirer chair Mario Prieto.



PHILIPPINE finalists receive plaques of recognition for their excellent showing in this year's Cannes International Advertising Festival. From Left: Inquirer VP Papito Olarte, TBWA's Evans Sator and Tong Puno, BBDO chair David Guerrero, Inquirer AVP Celine Madamba, BCD Pinpoint president Dickie Soriano, BBDO's Hope Atienza and Susan Dimacali, Inquirer president and CEO Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, and Ad Board vice chair Alvin Manaca. (Not shown are finalists from Jimenez Basic)



ABS-CBN newscasters Ces Drilon and Pinky Webb host the opening programme

AD AGENCIES FORUM:

What Will it Take to Win a Cannes?

WINNING a Cannes Lion takes more than effective content and creativity. It also requires the proper execution of ideas, a passion for excellence, strong commitment, and synergy between agency and client.

This was underscored during the Ad Agencies forum held at Cinema 3 on the second day of the event. Moderated by Lowe Manila Executive Creative Director Raul Castro, the event gathered some 200 agency heads and creative directors and a panel of prominent professionals from the field of marketing and advertising.

After a screening of Philippine

finalists and a review of some of the winning ads this year, the speakers gave their views on winning a Cannes Lion. While none of them proposed a formula to Cannes-worthy ads, simplicity, the use of local color, humor, freshness, and a high level of intellectual astuteness were common characteristics observed in many of this year's winning entries.

According to BCD Pinpoint Founder and President Dickie Soriano, winner of the country's first Cannes Lion, trust is crucial between clients, agencies and production houses and while ideas are important, "a great

idea is only as good as its execution."

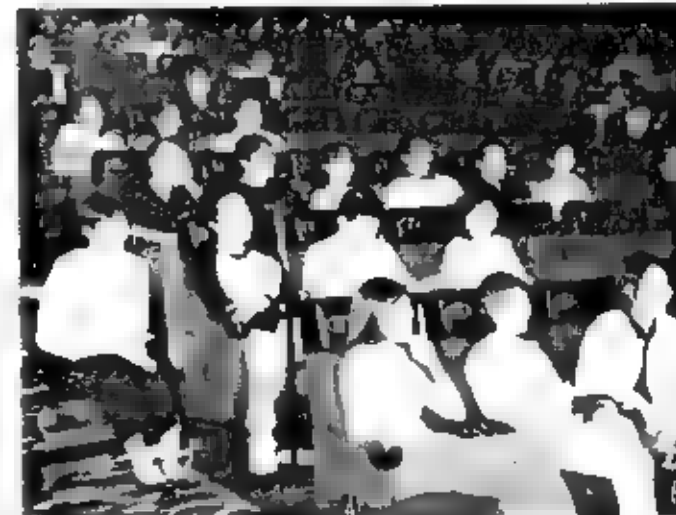
This was also emphasized by award-winning Director Raymond Red, who suggested that agencies and clients focus on compelling ideas coupled with excellent execution instead of trying to please the Cannes judges, whose personal biases are unknown to us.

"Freshness and compelling ideas continue to be basic ingredients of good ads," stated Creative Guild President and Leo Burnett Executive Creative Director Lili Reyes. He also cited the importance of national pride, which has been the single

most powerful motivating force behind creative excellence in countries such as Thailand.

Extreme energy coupled with passion to learn the craft are common traits of serious contenders in awards competitions like Cannes. According to Ace Saatchi and Saatchi Director and Vice President for Corporate Communications Sid Reyes, "there is a certain intensity, an obsession to win in other countries that is missing in the Philippines. We just don't try hard enough."

TBWA Managing Partner and Executive Creative Director Melvin Mangada ventured an ex-



planation by expounding Peter Wallace's view of the Philippines as a "damaged culture" applying Wallace's views to the local advertising industry and posing the need for radical change in the culture of Philippine advertising.

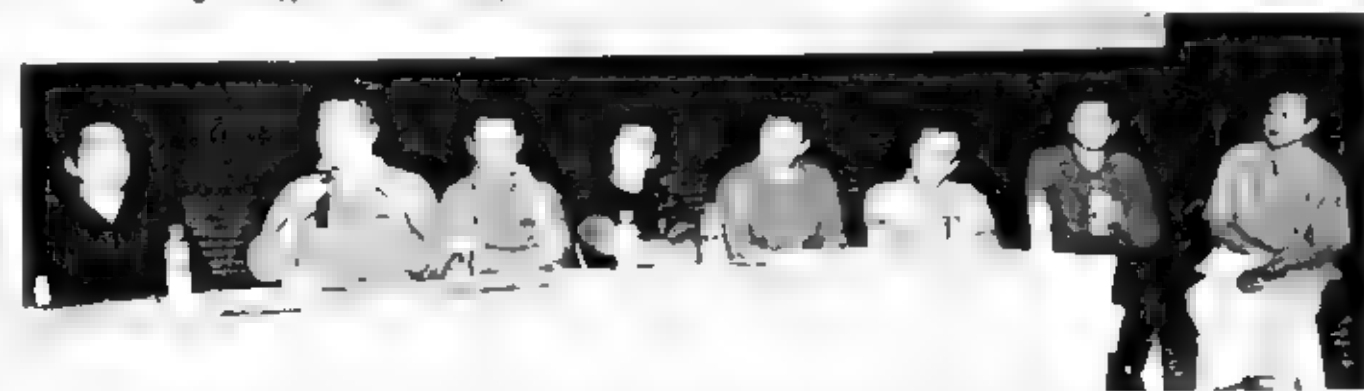
Meanwhile, David Guerrero, BBDO Chairman and Executive Creative Director, emphasized that communication is only complete when the receiver of the message accepts it. "People hate ads, which are perceived as interruption. For ads to be effective, they must earn the interest and attention of people. The difference between the best and worst ads is 4000%."

According to Unirel Presi-

dent Tony Gloria, a study by the Harvard Business Review reveals that advertising is the second to the least trusted profession in light of this and the fact that there are just too many commercials in television today. Gloria stressed the need for advertisers to de-velop ads that stand out from the clutter

and that explore themes that reflect real people.

"In the Philippines, we focus so much on beauty and glamour," he observed. "We should explore the quirks of being human and the humor that is uniquely Filipino." Celine R. Madamba



PANEL of distinguished speakers included TBWA managing partner and executive creative director Melvin Mangada, BBDO chair and executive creative director David Guerrero, Ace Saatchi and Saatchi director and VP for corporate communications Sid Reyes, Jimenez Basic's Don Sevilla, BCD Pinpoint founder and president Dickie Soriano, Unirel president Tony Gloria, director Raymond Red, and Creative Guild of the Philippines' president Lili Reyes.



CEO FORUM: Does Creativity Make Good Business Sense?

DURING the CEO forum moderated by BBDO Vice President Susan Dimacali and led by Cannes awardee David Guerrero, some of the country's top CEOs — Procter and Gamble President Johnp Cua, Splash Corporation President Mars Aaron and McDonald's Philippines President George Yang — observed that creativity is vital to successful campaigns.

According to Yang, while many CEOs tend to fear creative awards, "such accolades are accompanied by impressive market results." He cited McDonald's award-winning ad entitled "Lolo", which not only inspired an increase in per-store visits, top-of-mind awareness, and public perception for McDonald's but also "earned a few million in free publicity."

Cua emphasized the value of taking risks in creativity to enrich the dimensions of a brand. He shared the evolution of Procter and Gamble's ads from traditional formulas of song and dance to ads that engage audiences with wit, story lines and emotion.

If there is one thing that binds all award-winning ads, it is creative freshness and a strong emotional connection to consumers. According to Cua, "we have to move from branding to bonding."

Both agencies and clients agree that ads today must be distinctive, witty and emotionally relevant to consumers to be worthy of recognition. To agencies, that recognition is best translated into awards; to clients, it is best measured by the effectiveness of ads in solving clients' problems, whether it be increasing awareness or improving sales.

"Pragmatic creativity", according to Aaron, is the key to the successful agency-client partnerships. The challenge of clients today is to make their money work harder and to effectively differentiate their brands and services from the lot. Agencies must address this concern with creative solutions that are both locally and globally competitive. Only when clients are convinced that agencies are prioritizing their needs over creative awards will they be more willing to take more creative risks.

According to BBDO Chairman and Executive Creative Director David Guerrero, taking risks can mean greater results. "Unless your product is significantly better than your competition, average advertising will have average returns. Unexciting ads will lead to unspectacular growth."

He cited a 1987, 1994, 1996, and 2002 study of the 200 most awarded advertising campaigns in the world, which were measured either on hard sales data or on image or awareness change. About 83% of such campaigns were described as "meeting or exceeding the objectives of the client." In some cases, they exceeded the objectives as much as 400%. Campaigns that were not described as successful

were mainly due to low media spend as the ads lacked visibility among audiences.

To ensure that advertising makes world-class standards, Guerrero suggested synergy between clients and agencies and recommended that clients consider setting aside five percent of their marketing budgets for one or two "award-winning" projects.

"If it works, you'll have gained a disproportionate return on your money," added Guerrero. "If it doesn't, who knows — you might still go down in the record books as winning the country's first Cannes Lion for advertising." Celine R. Madamba



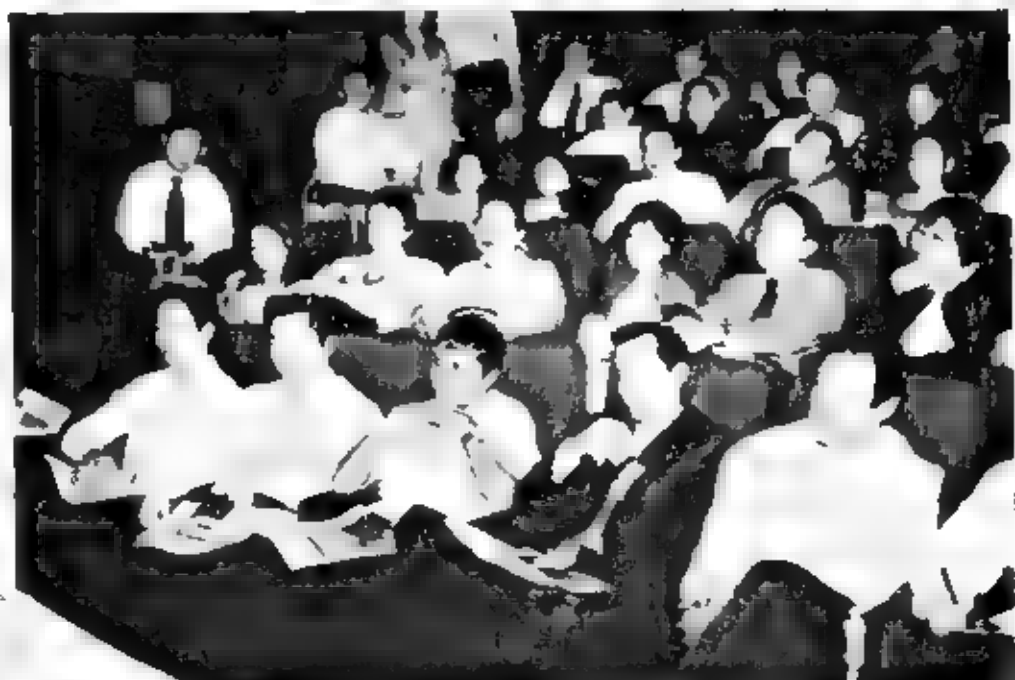
SPLASH CEO Mars Aaron



P&G president Johnp Cua



MCDONALD'S president George Yang



THE CEO Forum, which was held in My Cinema, was jam-packed with presidents, marketing professionals and ad agency heads who listened intently to the speakers, after enjoying a brief screening of winning TV ads from around the world.

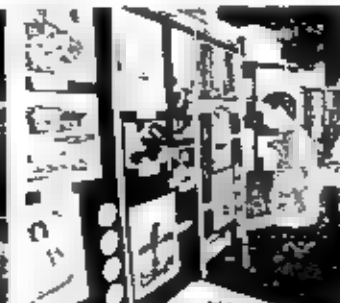


FORUM moderator BBDO president Susan Dimacali together with Golden Arches Development Corp. (McDonald's) president George Yang, Splash Corp president and CEO Mars Aaron, Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, Procter and Gamble president and CEO Johnp Cua, and BBDO chair and executive creative director David Guerrero.

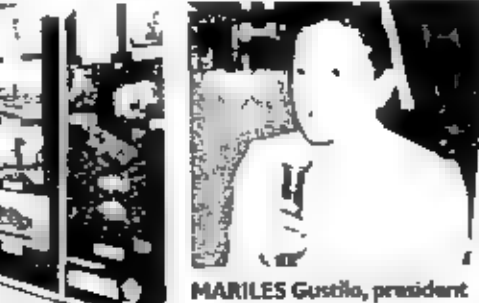
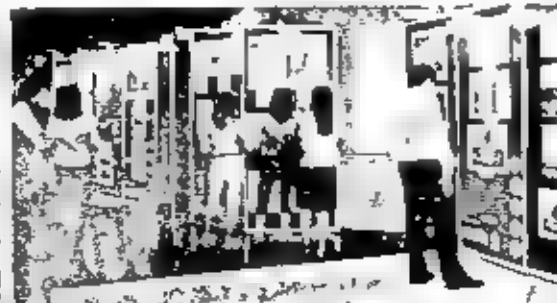
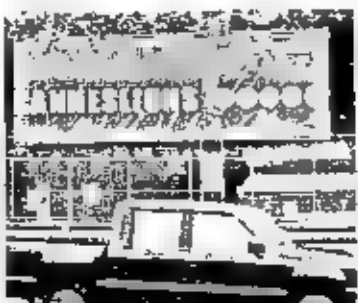
CANNES LIONS IN MANILA HIGHLIGHTS



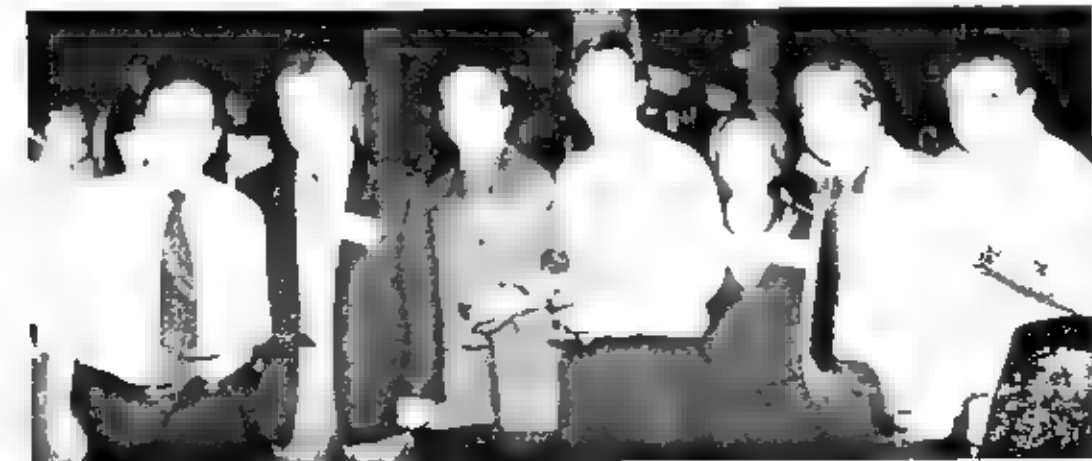
GUEST Speaker Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II formally opens the Press, Outdoor and Direct Exhibit of Winners together with 'Cannes Lions in Manila' chairs Celine Madamba and Alvin Manassa. More than 2,000 people are estimated to have visited the exhibits and attended the forums and screenings during the week-long activity held in Greenbelt 3.



MARCH Ventosa, managing director, Hemisphere Leo Burnett



MARILES Gustilo, president and CEO, Loye Lintas



AMAR Gambol, Mon Jimenez, Abby Jimenez, and Mateo Villanueva of Jimenez Basic.



BLEN Fernando, marketing manager of Alaska, and Rey Icasas, president of Ace Saatchi and Saatchi.

ENJOYING the festivities are Inquirer VP for advertising Pepito Olarte, Well Advertising president Ernie Hernandez, TBWA managing partner Tong Puno, QAAP president Jun Paraz, Adidas marketing manager Angelica Suiza, Globe Telecom AYP Jones Campos, and ASAP director Cargan Go.

Cannes Lions in Manila Organizing Committee

Chair: Celine Madamba, Philippine Daily Inquirer
Co-Chair: Alvin Manassa, Ad Board of the Philippines

Committee Heads/Members:

Raul Castro, Loye Lintas
Susan Dimacali, BBDO Guerrero Ortega
Dicke Soriano, BCD Pinpoint
Micky Dominggo, McCann-Erickson Philippines
David Guerrero, BBDO Guerrero Ortega
Eugene Demuto, Ace Saatchi and Saatchi
Alit Reyes, Leo Burnett
Nandy Villar, McCann-Erickson Philippines

Rudy Villar, Jr., Momenum
Pepito Olarte, Philippine Daily Inquirer

Secretariat:

Raymond Nacino, Ad Board of the Philippines
Hazel Gonzales, Philippine Daily Inquirer
Sezanne Ronquillo, Philippine Daily Inquirer
Gidget Aranda, Philippine Daily Inquirer
Edg Samson, BBDO Guerrero Ortega
Natalie Ang, BBDO Guerrero Ortega
Rosa Tobias, BCD Pinpoint
Miguel Luis Garcia, McCann Erickson

MAJOR SPONSORS

making great things possible

Globe

Lovena!

Video Sonic

Sound Design
Universa, McCann
Video Sonic

MEDIA PARTNERS

ABC 5
ABS-CBN 2
GMA 7
IBC 13
RPN 9
Jam 88.3
Jocoy 92.3
Wave 89.1
National Broadcasting Corp.

MINOR SPONSORS

Ace Saatchi and Saatchi
BBDO Guerrero Ortega
BCD Pinpoint
Hit Productions
Imarch
Leo Burnett
Loye Manila

McCann Erickson Philippines
Momentum Philippines
Optima Digital
Photobury.com
Print Town
San Miguel Corp.
Starcom

BUSINESSMonday

Is it necessary to say why you're going on leave?

GOODNESS GRACES

Lia S. Bernardo

Q: IS IT compulsory to state the reason of your leave even when you are entitled to a work leave? Work leave means you can do whatever you want for the particular day, right? Does a company have to know what are you going to do or where you are going?

A: You are not required to state the reason of your leave provided that you are availing yourself of your allotted work leave days.

Q: Could you please give me some guidelines on business letter writing? My boss expects me to write his letters for him and I am lost half the time.

A: Business letter writing is not really about creative writing. Thus, it is possible to learn how to write an effective business letter.

Basic structure

Business letters can be divided into two main categories, those that request and those that respond. All letters contain three main elements:

1. Opening (one paragraph; do not exceed four sentences)
2. Body (one or more paragraphs and vertical lists)
3. Closing (one paragraph; do not exceed three sentences)

Request/Inquiry Letter

I. Opening
 1. How do you know the reader?
 2. Who are you?
 3. What, in general, are you asking for?
 Establish your relationship with the reader and your credibility, then make a general request to identify the subject, or main intent, and focus the letter.

II. Body
 1. What do you want?
 2. How does providing what you want benefit the reader?
 Show your reader consideration by making the body easy to scan. Use numbers or bullet lists, and keep sentences short and precise. Phrase questions so that the reader will know immediately what you want, why you want it and how you will use it. Express how answering the request will benefit the reader.

III. Closing
 1. What do you want the reader to do? When?
 2. How can you be contacted?
 3. Express appreciation.
 Restate your general request and provide a deadline. Provide contact information for credibility (i.e., Should you need further information, please call me at 816-3698).

Revise

Tighten up your writing by deleting any unnecessary words. Remove any content that distracts from the main intent of the letter, regardless of how well it is written. Make sure the most important points are expressed in simple sentences.

Check your spelling and grammar. Read the letter sentence by sentence to make sure you did not miss anything.

How to respond to a request/inquiry letter? (Positive Response)

Subject Line
 What is the date of the request letter and subject?

Opening:
 Why are you granting the request?

Body
 What are the answers to the request? Answer each question using a list.

Closing:
 How can you be contacted?
 Positive, friendly closing, without clichés.

E-mail your business etiquette queries to etiquetteconsultants@hotmail.com names of senders will not be published.



Take charge of your business with a PC.

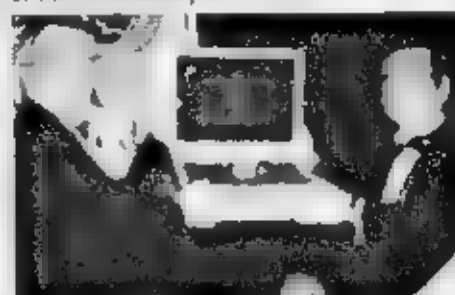
With information at your fingertips, you can face anything.



With a PC powered by the Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor with HT Technology, you get the performance you need to steer your business towards success. Through improved data management and the automation of everyday tasks, you can be more efficient and productive. That means more time to focus on other important things — like growing your business. With Intel you can be confident you are getting the reliability and quality you need. So what are you waiting for? Grow your business by investing in an Intel processor-based PC today. Go to intel.com/apac/smb

intel.

Look for systems with the Intel Pentium 4 Processor with HT Technology logo which your system vendor has affixed after Hyper-Threading Technology. Performance will vary depending on the specific hardware and software you use. See www.intel.com/inside/apac/smb for information. © 2004 Intel Corporation. Intel, the Intel logo, Intel Inside and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. All rights reserved.



DR. KLAUS Toepfer (left), executive director of the United Nations Environment Program with Masamitsu Sakurai.

Guarding our environment

THE RICOH Group not only complies with environmental regulations, they take it upon themselves to achieve corporate targets in ways and means that do not further stress the environment. For example, Ricoh has developed quick start-up (QSU) technology, enabling their machines to save energy and recover quickly from energy-saving mode, and thus lessening the emissions released to the atmosphere.

Ricoh factories and facilities are designed and operated in consideration of preventing pollution, effective utilization of energy and resources, as well as responsible disposal of waste products. Care is taken to ensure minimal environmental impact and maximum safety throughout every step of production. And in every country or region where Ricoh conducts business, they maintain close ties with the community, while operating on an atmosphere of transparency concerning their activities and conservation efforts.

In the Philippines, the Ricoh Group is represented by Ricoh Philippines Inc. For more information on their environmental conservation projects, call (632) 729-5161

Canon

SWAP N' DROP

Printer-calculator models when you swap your old printer-calculator!

Canon LITE-SERIES: LITE-1400, LITE-1400L, LITE-1400LX, LITE-1400LX2, LITE-1400LX3, LITE-1400LX4, LITE-1400LX5, LITE-1400LX6, LITE-1400LX7, LITE-1400LX8, LITE-1400LX9, LITE-1400LX10, LITE-1400LX11, LITE-1400LX12, LITE-1400LX13, LITE-1400LX14, LITE-1400LX15, LITE-1400LX16, LITE-1400LX17, LITE-1400LX18, LITE-1400LX19, LITE-1400LX20, LITE-1400LX21, LITE-1400LX22, LITE-1400LX23, LITE-1400LX24, LITE-1400LX25, LITE-1400LX26, LITE-1400LX27, LITE-1400LX28, LITE-1400LX29, LITE-1400LX30, LITE-1400LX31, LITE-1400LX32, LITE-1400LX33, LITE-1400LX34, LITE-1400LX35, LITE-1400LX36, LITE-1400LX37, LITE-1400LX38, LITE-1400LX39, LITE-1400LX40, LITE-1400LX41, LITE-1400LX42, LITE-1400LX43, LITE-1400LX44, LITE-1400LX45, LITE-1400LX46, LITE-1400LX47, LITE-1400LX48, LITE-1400LX49, LITE-1400LX50, LITE-1400LX51, LITE-1400LX52, LITE-1400LX53, LITE-1400LX54, LITE-1400LX55, LITE-1400LX56, LITE-1400LX57, LITE-1400LX58, LITE-1400LX59, LITE-1400LX60, LITE-1400LX61, LITE-1400LX62, LITE-1400LX63, LITE-1400LX64, LITE-1400LX65, LITE-1400LX66, LITE-1400LX67, LITE-1400LX68, LITE-1400LX69, LITE-1400LX70, LITE-1400LX71, LITE-1400LX72, LITE-1400LX73, LITE-1400LX74, LITE-1400LX75, LITE-1400LX76, LITE-1400LX77, LITE-1400LX78, LITE-1400LX79, LITE-1400LX80, LITE-1400LX81, LITE-1400LX82, LITE-1400LX83, LITE-1400LX84, LITE-1400LX85, LITE-1400LX86, LITE-1400LX87, LITE-1400LX88, LITE-1400LX89, LITE-1400LX90, LITE-1400LX91, LITE-1400LX92, LITE-1400LX93, LITE-1400LX94, LITE-1400LX95, LITE-1400LX96, LITE-1400LX97, LITE-1400LX98, LITE-1400LX99, LITE-1400LX100, LITE-1400LX101, LITE-1400LX102, LITE-1400LX103, LITE-1400LX104, LITE-1400LX105, LITE-1400LX106, LITE-1400LX107, LITE-1400LX108, LITE-1400LX109, LITE-1400LX110, LITE-1400LX111, LITE-1400LX112, LITE-1400LX113, LITE-1400LX114, LITE-1400LX115, LITE-1400LX116, LITE-1400LX117, LITE-1400LX118, LITE-1400LX119, LITE-1400LX120, LITE-1400LX121, LITE-1400LX122, LITE-1400LX123, LITE-1400LX124, LITE-1400LX125, LITE-1400LX126, LITE-1400LX127, LITE-1400LX128, LITE-1400LX129, LITE-1400LX130, LITE-1400LX131, LITE-1400LX132, LITE-1400LX133, LITE-1400LX134, LITE-1400LX135, LITE-1400LX136, LITE-1400LX137, LITE-1400LX138, LITE-1400LX139, LITE-1400LX140, LITE-1400LX141, LITE-1400LX142, LITE-1400LX143, LITE-1400LX144, LITE-1400LX145, LITE-1400LX146, LITE-1400LX147, LITE-1400LX148, LITE-1400LX149, LITE-1400LX150, LITE-1400LX151, LITE-1400LX152, LITE-1400LX153, LITE-1400LX154, LITE-1400LX155, LITE-1400LX156, LITE-1400LX157, LITE-1400LX158, LITE-1400LX159, LITE-1400LX160, LITE-1400LX161, LITE-1400LX162, LITE-1400LX163, LITE-1400LX164, LITE-1400LX165, LITE-1400LX166, LITE-1400LX167, LITE-1400LX168, LITE-1400LX169, LITE-1400LX170, LITE-1400LX171, LITE-1400LX172, LITE-1400LX173, LITE-1400LX174, LITE-1400LX175, LITE-1400LX176, LITE-1400LX177, LITE-1400LX178, LITE-1400LX179, LITE-1400LX180, LITE-1400LX181, LITE-1400LX182, LITE-1400LX183, LITE-1400LX184, LITE-1400LX185, LITE-1400LX186, LITE-1400LX187, LITE-1400LX188, LITE-1400LX189, LITE-1400LX190, LITE-1400LX191, LITE-1400LX192, LITE-1400LX193, LITE-1400LX194, LITE-1400LX195, LITE-1400LX196, LITE-1400LX197, LITE-1400LX198, LITE-1400LX199, LITE-1400LX200, LITE-1400LX201, LITE-1400LX202, LITE-1400LX203, LITE-1400LX204, LITE-1400LX205, LITE-1400LX206, LITE-1400LX207, LITE-1400LX208, LITE-1400LX209, LITE-1400LX210, LITE-1400LX211, LITE-1400LX212, LITE-1400LX213, LITE-1400LX214, LITE-1400LX215, LITE-1400LX216, LITE-1400LX217, LITE-1400LX218, LITE-1400LX219, LITE-1400LX220, LITE-1400LX221, LITE-1400LX222, LITE-1400LX223, LITE-1400LX224, LITE-1400LX225, LITE-1400LX226, LITE-1400LX227, LITE-1400LX228, LITE-1400LX229, LITE-1400LX230, LITE-1400LX231, LITE-1400LX232, LITE-1400LX233, LITE-1400LX234, LITE-1400LX235, LITE-1400LX236, LITE-1400LX237, LITE-1400LX238, LITE-1400LX239, LITE-1400LX240, LITE-1400LX241, LITE-1400LX242, LITE-1400LX243, LITE-1400LX244, LITE-1400LX245, LITE-1400LX246, LITE-1400LX247, LITE-1400LX248, LITE-1400LX249, LITE-1400LX250, LITE-1400LX251, LITE-1400LX252, LITE-1400LX253, LITE-1400LX254, LITE-1400LX255, LITE-1400LX256, LITE-1400LX257, LITE-1400LX258, LITE-1400LX259, LITE-1400LX260, LITE-1400LX261, LITE-1400LX262, LITE-1400LX263, LITE-1400LX264, LITE-1400LX265, LITE-1400LX266, LITE-1400LX267, LITE-1400LX268, LITE-1400LX269, LITE-1400LX270, LITE-1400LX271, LITE-1400LX272, LITE-1400LX273, LITE-1400LX274, LITE-1400LX275, LITE-1400LX276, LITE-1400LX277, LITE-1400LX278, LITE-1400LX279, LITE-1400LX280, LITE-1400LX281, LITE-1400LX282, LITE-1400LX283, LITE-1400LX284, LITE-1400LX285, LITE-1400LX286, LITE-1400LX287, LITE-1400LX288, LITE-1400LX289, LITE-1400LX290, LITE-1400LX291, LITE-1400LX292, LITE-1400LX293, LITE-1400LX294, LITE-1400LX295, LITE-1400LX296, LITE-1400LX297, LITE-1400LX298, LITE-1400LX299, LITE-1400LX300, LITE-1400LX301, LITE-1400LX302, LITE-1400LX303, LITE-1400LX304, LITE-1400LX305, LITE-1400LX306, LITE-1400LX307, LITE-1400LX308, LITE-1400LX309, LITE-1400LX310, LITE-1400LX311, LITE-1400LX312, LITE-1400LX313, LITE-1400LX314, LITE-1400LX315, LITE-1400LX316, LITE-1400LX317, LITE-1400LX318, LITE-1400LX319, LITE-1400LX320, LITE-1400LX321, LITE-1400LX322, LITE-1400LX323, LITE-1400LX324, LITE-1400LX325, LITE-1400LX326, LITE-1400LX327, LITE-1400LX328, LITE-1400LX329, LITE-1400LX330, LITE-1400LX331, LITE-1400LX332, LITE-1400LX333, LITE-1400LX334, LITE-1400LX335, LITE-1400LX336, LITE-1400LX337, LITE-1400LX338, LITE-1400LX339, LITE-1400LX340, LITE-1400LX341, LITE-1400LX342, LITE-1400LX343, LITE-1400LX344, LITE-1400LX345, LITE-1400LX346, LITE-1400LX347, LITE-1400LX348, LITE-1400LX349, LITE-1400LX350, LITE-1400LX351, LITE-1400LX352, LITE-1400LX353, LITE-1400LX354, LITE-1400LX355, LITE-1400LX356, LITE-1400LX357, LITE-1400LX358, LITE-1400LX359, LITE-1400LX360, LITE-1400LX361, LITE-1400LX362, LITE-1400LX363, LITE-1400LX364, LITE-1400LX365, LITE-1400LX366, LITE-1400LX367, LITE-1400LX368, LITE-1400LX369, LITE-1400LX370, LITE-1400LX371, LITE-1400LX372, LITE-1400LX373, LITE-1400LX374, LITE-1400LX375, LITE-1400LX376, LITE-1400LX377, LITE-1400LX378, LITE-1400LX379, LITE-1400LX380, LITE-1400LX381, LITE-1400LX382, LITE-1400LX383, LITE-1400LX384, LITE-1400LX385, LITE-1400LX386, LITE-1400LX387, LITE-1400LX388, LITE-1400LX389, LITE-1400LX390, LITE-1400LX391, LITE-1400LX392, LITE-1400LX393, LITE-1400LX394, LITE-1400LX395, LITE-1400LX396, LITE-1400LX397, LITE-1400LX398, LITE-1400LX399, LITE-1400LX400, LITE-1400LX401, LITE-1400LX402, LITE-1400LX403, LITE-1400LX404, LITE-1400LX405, LITE-1400LX406, LITE-1400LX407, LITE-1400LX408, LITE-1400LX409, LITE-1400LX410, LITE-1400LX411, LITE-1400LX412, LITE-1400LX413, LITE-1400LX414, LITE-1400LX415, LITE-1400LX416, LITE-1400LX417, LITE-1400LX418, LITE-1400LX419, LITE-1400LX420, LITE-1400LX421, LITE-1400LX422, LITE-1400LX423, LITE-1400LX424, LITE-1400LX425, LITE-1400LX426, LITE-1400LX427, LITE-1400LX428, LITE-1400LX429, LITE-1400LX430, LITE-1400LX431, LITE-1400LX432, LITE-1400LX433, LITE-1400LX434, LITE-1400LX435, LITE-1400LX436, LITE-1400LX437, LITE-1400LX438, LITE-1400LX439, LITE-1400LX440, LITE-1400LX441, LITE-1400LX442, LITE-1400LX443, LITE-1400LX444, LITE-1400LX445, LITE-1400LX446, LITE-1400LX447, LITE-1400LX448, LITE-1400LX449, LITE-1400LX450, LITE-1400LX451, LITE-1400LX452, LITE-1400LX453, LITE-1400LX454, LITE-1400LX455, LITE-1400LX456, LITE-1400LX457, LITE-1400LX458, LITE-1400LX459, LITE-1400LX460, LITE-1400LX461, LITE-1400LX462, LITE-1400LX463, LITE-1400LX464, LITE-1400LX465, LITE-1400LX466, LITE-1400LX467, LITE-1400LX468, LITE-1400LX469, LITE-1400LX470, LITE-1400LX471, LITE-1400LX472, LITE-1400LX473, LITE-1400LX474, LITE-1400LX475, LITE-1400LX476, LITE-1400LX477, LITE-1400LX478, LITE-1400LX479, LITE-1400LX480, LITE-1400LX481, LITE-1400LX482, LITE-1400LX483, LITE-1400LX484, LITE-1400LX485, LITE-1400LX486, LITE-1400LX487, LITE-1400LX488, LITE-1400LX489, LITE-1400LX490, LITE-1400LX491, LITE-1400LX492, LITE-1400LX493, LITE-1400LX494, LITE-1400LX495, LITE-1400LX496, LITE-1400LX497, LITE-1400LX498, LITE-1400LX499, LITE-1400LX500, LITE-1400LX501, LITE-1400LX502, LITE-1400LX503, LITE-1400LX504, LITE-1400LX505, LITE-1400LX506, LITE-1400LX507, LITE-1400LX508, LITE-1400LX509, LITE-1400LX510, LITE-1400LX511, LITE-1400LX512, LITE-1400LX513, LITE-1400LX514, LITE-1400LX515, LITE-1400LX516, LITE-1400LX517, LITE-1400LX518, LITE-1400LX519, LITE-1400LX520, LITE-1400LX521, LITE-1400LX522, LITE-1400LX523, LITE-1400LX524, LITE-1400LX525, LITE-1400LX526, LITE-1400LX527, LITE-1400LX528, LITE-1400LX529, LITE-1400LX530, LITE-1400LX531, LITE-1400LX532, LITE-1400LX533, LITE-1400LX534, LITE-1400LX535, LITE-1400LX536, LITE-1400LX537, LITE-1400LX538, LITE-1400LX539, LITE-1400LX540, LITE-1400LX541, LITE-1400LX542, LITE-1400LX543, LITE-1400LX544, LITE-1400LX545, LITE-1400LX546, LITE-1400LX547, LITE-1400LX548, LITE-1400LX549, LITE-1400LX550, LITE-1400LX551, LITE-1400LX552, LITE-1400LX553, LITE-1400LX554, LITE-1400LX555, LITE-1400LX556, LITE-1400LX557, LITE-1400LX558, LITE-1400LX559, LITE-1400LX560, LITE-1400LX561, LITE-1400LX562, LITE-1400LX563, LITE-1400LX564, LITE-1400LX565, LITE-1400LX566, LITE-1400LX567, LITE-1400LX568, LITE-1400LX569, LITE-1400LX570, LITE-1400LX571, LITE-1400LX572, LITE-1400LX573, LITE-1400LX574, LITE-1400LX575, LITE-1400LX576, LITE-1400LX577, LITE-1400LX578, LITE-1400LX579, LITE-1400LX580, LITE-1400LX581, LITE-1400LX582, LITE-1400LX583, LITE-1400LX584, LITE-1400LX585, LITE-1400LX586, LITE-1400LX587, LITE-1400LX588, LITE-1400LX589, LITE-1400LX590, LITE-1400LX591, LITE-1400LX592, LITE-1400LX593, LITE-1400LX594, LITE-1400LX595, LITE-1400LX596, LITE-1400LX597, LITE-1400LX598, LITE-1400LX599, LITE-1400LX600, LITE-1400LX601, LITE-1400LX602, LITE-1400LX603, LITE-1400LX604, LITE-1400LX605, LITE-1400LX606, LITE-1400LX607, LITE-1400LX608, LITE-1400LX609, LITE-1400LX610, LITE-1400LX611, LITE-1400LX612, LITE-1400LX613, LITE-1400LX614, LITE-1400LX615, LITE-1400LX616, LITE-1400LX617, LITE-1400LX618, LITE-1400LX619, LITE-1400LX620, LITE-1400LX621, LITE-1400LX622, LITE-1400LX623, LITE-1400LX624, LITE-1400LX625, LITE-1400LX626, LITE-1400LX627, LITE-1400LX628, LITE-1400LX629, LITE-1400LX630, LITE-1400LX631, LITE-1400LX632, LITE-1400LX633, LITE-1400LX634, LITE-1400LX635, LITE-1400LX636, LITE-1400LX637, LITE-1400LX638, LITE-1400LX639, LITE-1400LX640, LITE-1400LX641, LITE-1400LX642, LITE-1400LX643, LITE-1400LX644, LITE-1400LX645, LITE-1400LX646, LITE-1400LX647, LITE-1400LX648, LITE-1400LX649, LITE-1400LX650, LITE-1400LX651, LITE-1400LX652, LITE-1400LX653, LITE-1400LX654, LITE-1400LX655, LITE-1400LX656, LITE-1400LX657, LITE-1400LX658, LITE-1400LX659, LITE-1400LX660, LITE-1400LX661, LITE-1400LX662, LITE-1400LX663, LITE-1400LX664, LITE-1400LX665, LITE-1400LX666, LITE-1400LX667, LITE-1400LX668, LITE-1400LX669, LITE-1400LX670, LITE-1400LX671, LITE-1400LX672, LITE-1400LX673, LITE-1400LX674, LITE-1400LX675, LITE-1400LX676, LITE-1400LX677, LITE-1400LX678, LITE-1400LX679, LITE-1400LX680, LITE-1400LX681, LITE-1400LX682, LITE-1400LX683, LITE-1400LX684, LITE-1400LX685, LITE-1400LX686, LITE-1400LX687, LITE-1400LX688, LITE-1400LX689, LITE-1400LX690, LITE-1400LX691, LITE-1400LX692, LITE-1400LX693, LITE-1400LX694, LITE-1400LX695, LITE-1400LX696, LITE-1400LX697, LITE-1400LX698, LITE-1400LX699, LITE-1400LX700, LITE-1400LX701, LITE-1400LX702, LITE-1400LX703, LITE-1400LX704, LITE-1400LX705, LITE-1400LX706, LITE-1400LX707, LITE-1400LX708, LITE-1400LX709, LITE-1400LX710, LITE-1400LX711, LITE-1400LX712, LITE-1400LX713, LITE-1400LX714, LITE-1400LX715, LITE-1400LX716, LITE-1400LX717, LITE-1400LX718, LITE-1400LX719, LITE-1400LX720, LITE-1400LX721, LITE-1400LX722, LITE-1400LX723, LITE-1400LX724, LITE-1400LX725, LITE-1400LX726, LITE-1400LX727, LITE-1400LX728, LITE-1400LX729, LITE-1400LX730, LITE-1400LX731, LITE-1400LX732, LITE-1400LX733, LITE-1400LX734, LITE-1400LX735, LITE-1400LX736, LITE-1400LX737, LITE-1400LX738, LITE-1400LX739, LITE-1400LX740, LITE

LIFESTYLE

More mind games from Alex Garland

The new novel by the regular Manila visitor behind 'The Beach' and '28 Days Later' will either give you a killer head trip or a nasty head cold



Sony Ericsson



ENTERTAIN YOUR SENSES.
THE NEW K500i.



K500i

Live up your serious side. Or get naughty after being nice all day. After all, you're someone else in the K500i's world of entertainment. In an instant, you could be a secret agent on a mission. The next, a groove-spinning DJ. Want to play photographer or direct your own home video? Do both in a matter of seconds. And when you need to take a break from the action, catch a movie trailer or music video clip. The new K500i. Thrilling, whatever your mood.



- Dual Front Design (Camera Front & Photo Front) • QuickShare™
- GPRS • Video Camera • Integrated Camera with Lens Cover
- 1.3" 128K 180 Pixels 65K TFT Colour Screen • 3D Java Gaming
- MP3/MPEG4 Player • PlayNow™ • 40 Polyphonic Ringtones
- Email • WAP 2.0 • MMS

Put fun
into your life
with cool
screensavers,
ringtones,
wallpapers
and games



For more information please call
the SONY ERICSSON CALL CENTER at (632) 835-1850 to 81
or log on to www.sonyericsson.com



By Ruel S. De Vera

ONE can only expect the unexpected from Alex Garland. From damning paradise-lost vibe of "The Beach" to the gritty Philippine setting of "The Tesseract," he has always distinguished himself with his very spare, compact prose, as well as his inventive, unusual, sometimes downright weird sense of narrative.

Yet he can be brilliant even in his other work. Check out his screenplay for "28 Days Later," surely the most stylish zombie script since George A. Romero's original "Dawn of the Dead" script.

Which is why Garland's "The Coma" (Riverhead Books, New York, 2004, 220 pages) represents something typical of Garland: it is short, yet may entail a huge risk.

Garland has always been a love-him-or-hate-him proposition, but "Coma" is his most polarizing project yet.

Written in brief chapters of anything from two to five pages, "Coma" is an urban nightmare of sorts. Carl is apparently a hardworking management-type who, while on his way home on the train, gets beaten into a coma while trying to defend a woman being attacked.

That's when "Coma" gets into its groove—or its depths, depending on your taste—as readers are faced with a book that portrays Carl's seeming emergence from the coma, only to state that he is, in fact, still in the coma. Or is he? Garland keeps turning the tables on the reader so many times, everything blurs into a whopper of a trip through the Land of Carl.

Trapped

It thus becomes Garland's—or Carl's—meditation of what it's like to be trapped in your own mind, moving from deconstructed clichés such as seeing his own body from the outside, to a woozy visit to friends and daydreaming that seems real.

"In fact, the implications were almost limitless. If I couldn't differentiate between hallucination and reality, it was hard to conceive of anything certain I could use to define myself. I might be a different age from the age I believed I was, or a different gender. I might not be walking down a street but standing in a field, or lying in a room. At that moment, on my slow walk to the hospital, it seemed to me that everything was up for grabs. I could be anything with a consciousness."

Now, it's up to the reader to judge whether or not "Coma" is a feat of writing wizardry or a literary snow job dressed up in snobbish attire. It is admittedly confusing in parts and

MORE/2



GARLAND

even

Now, it's easier for you to own a house!

Call 885.5555

HOMEPLUS

Visit us at www.homeplus.ph

TAKE HOME

Our HomePlus comes in attractive packages:

- Lowest interest rates
- Affordable monthly amortizations
- Longer payment terms
- ...and it's fast and easy.

CHINABANK

Your success is our business

*Based for 1 year, for all loan applications received on or before Oct. 31, 2004

For more information, please call 885.5555 or visit our website at www.homeplus.ph

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT AND BANK CORPORATION

Deposits insured up to P200,000 per depositor per bank by the PDIC

The ultimate pregnancy book

MILFLORES Publishing, Inc. has released "Baby Love: A Pinay's Practical Guide to Pregnancy," by Marivi Soliven Blanco and Ipat Luna.

"Baby Love" was authored by two Filipinas who both

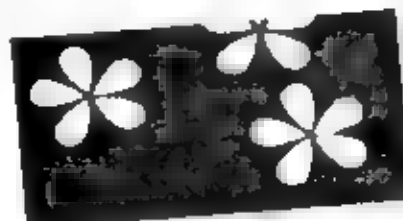
recently gave birth, to help other Filipinas navigate their nine months of pregnancy—of clumsiness, bloating—with as much grace and humor as possible. Written in non-technical language and in a breezy style with

lots of outrageous humor, this guidebook is guaranteed to cheer up expectant mothers while providing them with the essential information for a safe and comfortable pregnancy.

The book covers the first through third trimesters, including breastfeeding and infant care, and offers sound advice on how to cope with a wide range of issues and problems that all mothers-to-be will face: how to handle pregnancy heebie-jeebies, how to help partners become fathers, how to build a sensible wardrobe while expecting, who to tell first, how to fly as a solo parent, and even how to avoid naming the baby after Auntie Ipighenia.

It offers the latest information on the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women, on why mothers should breastfeed, and on how they can do it as comfortably as possible. It has a useful resource listing of options of medical practitioners and facilities, support organizations, information websites and stores that can meet the expectant mother's needs.

"Baby Love" is available at all National



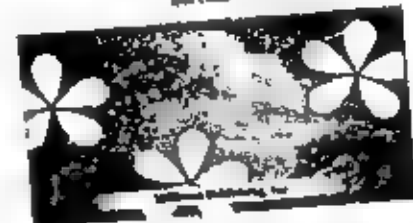
BABY LOVE

A Pinay's Practical Guide to Pregnancy

9780140000000

10000000000000

10000000000000



Book Store and PowerBooks branches at P300 per copy.

Call 7216431 or e-mail milflores@pacific.net.ph.

CAFE PLAZA
Fresh, Fast, Fantastic!

Saigon Sizzles

A Vietnamese Food Festival

October 12 to 24, 2004

Lunch and Dinner Buffet

Experience a culinary style rich in a variety of flavors and vibrant in color and freshness. Vietnamese cuisine combines elements from three of the world's most celebrated cuisines: French, Chinese and Indian.

Enjoy the taste of Vietnam's best from guest master chefs Nguyen Quang Bao and Nguyen TM Nhi Thon from Sheraton Saigon Hotel & Towers to prepare their very own gastronomic treasures.

Get a chance to WIN a trip for two to Ho Chi Minh City with 3 days - 2 nights accommodations.

For reservations, please call 551-5555 ext. 1529 or 1531.

**THE WESTIN
PHILIPPINE PLAZA**
HOTEL

In partnership with



CCP Complex, Remat Boulevard, Pasay, 300, Manila, Philippines Tel: (632) 551 5555 Fax: (632) 551 5610 Email: bookings@westinmanila.com Website: www.westinmanila.com

More mind games from Alex Garland

From page C1

bracingly insightful in others. "You dream, you wake: you live, you die," Garland writes. "Somehow it occurred to me that if you die, you wake." He goes on to say that "waking is rising, and dreaming is sinking. You wake up, you fall asleep."

Some will find Garland's prose too choppy, maybe a little too gimmicky. But for those who have always liked Garland's style, the paragraphs tingle with trademark suspense and mystery. Garland helps along "Coma's" hallucinatory texture with moody chapter illustrations by his father, artist Nicholas Garland.

Similarly, one might find Garland's plot a brilliant inward quest for meaning and definition, or a vague mess of little narrative tricks, a question of whether "Coma" is mind-alter drug lit or smoke-and-mirrors exposition. Garland's work has often seen the content reflected in the form, thus here he seems to be dissecting the idea of a coma while Carl is seemingly trapped in a coma.

Another vintage Garland theme here is the person lost in a hostile home, whether it's a

lost soul in grungy Manila, idyllic Thailand or infested London.

What it all amounts to is Garland taking the reader on a trip through, effectively, his own head—and it's a trip that'll give you either a profoundly affecting head trip or a vicious head cold you won't soon forget.

"The surprise for me is that I can remember exactly what losing my mind was like," Garland goes on to say. "It's tangible to me; it's a taste in my mouth. And, even more surprisingly, I think I'm able to describe it."

It remains a good question whether or not readers will be able to do the same after finishing "Coma." It'll either convince you of Garland's greatness or annoy the heck out of you. Or both.

Whatever the case, "The Coma," with all its narrative trap doors and dead ends, is Garland as his unusual self with yet another take-it-or-leave-it experiment that doesn't compromise or leave much middle ground.

Available in hardcover at National Book Store and PowerBooks.



used to spend 30 minutes
just to pull out white hair
Now it takes me 30 minutes
just to find one

...used to spend 30 minutes just to pull out white hair. Now it takes me 30 minutes just to find one. ...

True to life.



INSULAR LIFE

I want to know more about Insular Life College Provider.

Name: _____ Birthday: _____ Name of child/children: _____ Age/s: _____
Address: _____ I got this form from _____ dated _____
Tel. No.: _____ Best time to call: _____ Fax to: (632) 771-1902 or email inquiry@insular.com.ph

A poetess' perpetual quest for home

From page C2

"Two hangers/ Cut by the edge/ Of stars" (Scars); "Reflecting/ The pale fulness/ Of ourselves/ Back to/ The moon" (Full Moon).

Her latter works are more narrative in nature, some written as poetic anecdotes or prose poems, like "Stuffing," "Acid," "The Last Rite," "For Neil," "Home," "Movement," "Kabuki," "In the Heart of Malate" and "Hunger." Their virtue, despite their sometimes apparent lack of lyricism and organic unity, resides in Guevara's virtuosity to verbalize the pain of parting, which by itself is the most sonorous of sufferings.

For a sensitive reader of her oeuvre will soon discover that Guevara's poems are awash with leaves in the form of images, similes and metaphors, as well as leaving in its diverse verbal variations: "The last leaves/ Its voice/ In this house... The dead leaves/ Are fallen tongues" (Chime House); "We are speckled by pieces of sun/ Sliding between the leaves" (Boulevard Tree); "Playing on a pattern/ Of pavement and leaves" (Grandfather on a Sunday); "If the leaves and playing children/ Did not make larger nipples" (Forever in August); "You tell me words/ Change colors like leaves" (With the Pining of

Poets and Leaves); "And the rain that left/ The leaves of acacias/ Drooping on the Boulevard" (Distances); "It will leave me/ And I will be/ Alone" (Nightbird); "His touch is music/ Copper like the late leaves" (Copper Like the Late Leaves); "Shadow by shadow/ Leaf by falling leaf" (Cicada); "Leaving the memory/ Of other roads/ In thinning petroleum/Rainbows," "No leaves fell" (Understatement), among others.

Conflicting desire

But the pervasive paradox, or even pathos, of Guevara's poetry is her persona's dual desire for complete unity and total freedom. Most of her poems are attempts to articulate and reconcile these opposing tendencies for attachment and flight, the Apollo and the Daphne principles of a relationship, romantic or otherwise.

It therefore comes as no surprise that a good number of her poems gravitate around the image of trees, symbolizing what Thomas Moore describes in "Soul Mates" as "the upward yearning for simplicity, order, meaning and freedom, with the downward need for complexity, change, moodiness, rootedness and attachment."

Aside from "Boulevard Tree," "Distances," "The Last Rite," "Home," and "The Death of a Bar," where tree(s) somehow function as the focal trope, some of her poems surprisingly turn arboreal in the middle of nowhere: "Trees bristle in the wind" (Sacred Mountain); "Trilling/ The sound pulls the night/ From the sky/ Into a circle of trees" (Cicada); "Our laughter/ Disturbed the trees" (Isman-Descenting); "The trees always leave an instant mix" (27); "Once/ There was a River/ Winding warm/ And Trees/ And Trees" (Reincarnation).

In her introduction, Edith L. Tiempo, National Artist for Literature and poet-critic par excellence, aptly describes Guevara's poetry as "the consequence of slanted perceptions." And this critic cannot help but agree, for Guevara views the world from a most peculiar perspective, perceiving things in her own unique and oblique way(s). Abandonment, alienation, absence abound between the lines of her poetry, in the interstitial spaces between what she sees and what she says. For her self-fashioning as a poet often skews her discernment of life, which is not necessarily bad, as long as she shares her many fresh insights to one and all. "The word absence

would not/ Make sense" (27); "We have packed them all/ Scrubbed the place clean/ Of memory" (In the Heart of Malate); "Everything will end/ Soon/ Like all love will" (End). It's hoped that Guevara will soon reach her final destination wherever that may be, slowly realizing along her arduous passage that home is not a dwelling place, but a sacred state of undwelling.

Nerisa del Carmen
Guevara's poems eddy
around themes of loss



Volume Maker

An intelligent solution for those with thin hair

Available only at

BERGMANN

FREE TRIAL and CONSULTATION

from September 6 - October 30, 2004

For any inquiries call 6339173 / 6336991

We also offer Hair Extensions

NATIONAL Book Store offers great discounts for its children's titles as part of its Children's Book Fest this month. Each customer will be entitled to a raffle coupon for every P300 worth of purchase. Two first-prize winners will receive P50,000 each, four second-prize winners P30,000, six third-prize winners P10,000, and 20 consolation winners P5,000.

CONSUMER'S VERDICT

Kamcurea Herbal Tea

TOP HERBAL SLIMMING TEA BRAND OF THE YEAR

20th Consumer's Choice Awards of the National Consumer Affairs Foundation

Thank you for making us no. 1!

100% Pure Winning Power

DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.

Available only at **DIAMOND** stores and other leading supermarkets & department stores

The only thing you'll ever need

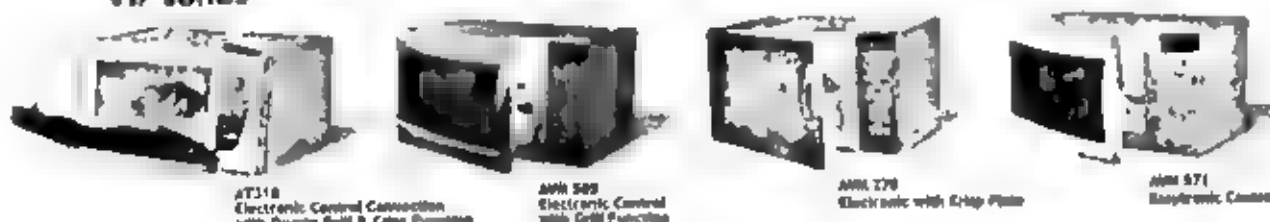
Whirlpool Microwave Ovens were created with you in mind. Designed to do more than just reheat, it also allows you to explore your creativity in cooking. Now you can grill*, crisp*, bake*, defrost and keep your food warm until ready to eat. With its double emission system, you can ensure that food is perfectly cooked without leaving any cold spots.

You'll never look at microwave ovens the same way again.

* Available in certain models only.



VIP series



SOLO series



QUALITY EXPRESS SERVICE

7-day SERVICE

HOTLINE 727270

TEXT SERVICE

QUICK RESPONSE MOBILE SERVICE

Distributed by Escalante Appliance Technologies, Inc.



Volume
Whirlpool
The world's
best
homemakers

A poetess' perpetual quest for home

By Ralph Semino Galán
Contributor

NERISA del Carmen Guevara's "Reaching Destination: Poems and the Search for Home" (LST Publishing House, 2004, 131 pages) chronicles metaphorically her poetic persona's many meanderings in the perpetual quest for that holy grail called home.

This much-awaited, long-overdue first volume of verses, which took the poet 10 years in the making (1993-2003), has for its central metaphor the most fluid of the four basic elements: water in the shape of rain, river, tears, the sea. Arranged in reverse order, the 50 poems eddy around the subject of loss: lost loves, lost causes, lost moments, the loss of home.

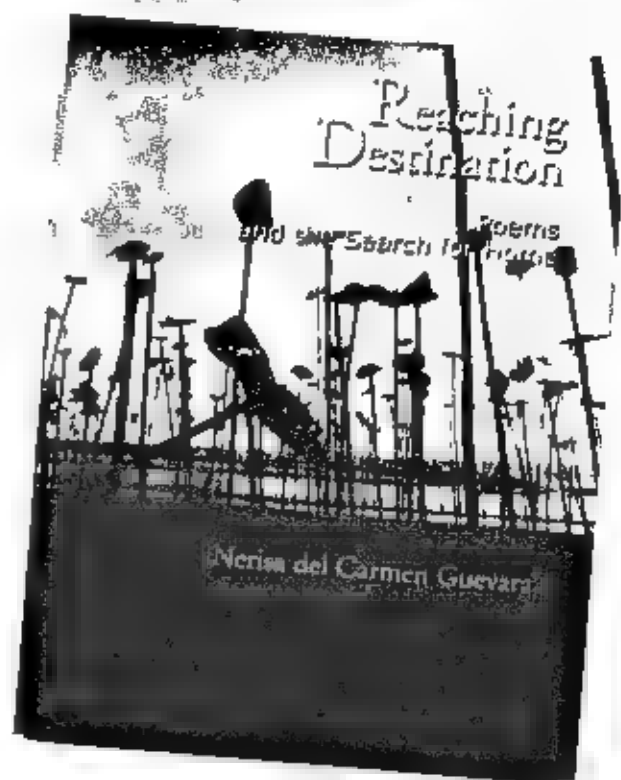
For readers who are not too familiar with Guevara's poetry, it is highly recommended that they peruse the book from the back to the front to witness her development as a wordsmith, especially since "Reaching Destination" ends with an exegetic essay explaining her creative process. Read in this way, one becomes privy to her transformation from a timid, spare, almost haiku-like lyric poet to a more intrepid, profuse, ballad-oriented troubadour.

Her earlier pieces, like "Baguio Poem," "Garden Pond," "Nocturne," "Scars" and "Full Moon," are very Japanese in inspiration and execution. "Garden Pond" and "Nocturne," in particular, are written in tanka form, each poem consisting of five lines made up of five, seven, five, seven, and seven syllables. Like the typical tanka, the two poems manifest restraint, de-

pending on concrete, puissant images to elicit an emotional response rather than employing abstractions to directly declare feelings and ideas: "A pale stalk standing/ Among the purple lilies/ Drooping into a woman" (Garden Pond); "We walk scented by moonlight/ Staring at the bracts of stars" (Nocturne).

Although not forged in the limiting structure of the five-seven-five syllables of the haiku, the three other verses still retain the flavor of Japanese poetry with its usual ingredients of exactitude, clarity and suggestiveness. In lieu of a kigo or seasonal word that denotes the time of the year being depicted, Guevara employs key images to evoke the time of the day, which is usually after dark: "And the night bleeds/ A green sadness" (Baguio Poem);

A POETESS/CJ



The Leader in Wireless. The Leader in Innovation. SMART gives you the chance to be a Millionaire!



"Milyon ko 'yan!"

"Resibo ko 'to!"

Bayan I-txt ang Resibo 2004

Buwan Buwan Milyonaryo!

Resibo Mo, Maaring Milyon Para Sa 'Yoi

Over 15 Million pesos to be given away!

• P25,000 WEEKLY • P1,000,000 MONTHLY

• Three (3) winners of P1,000,000 on the CHRISTMAS DRAW!

Kaya keep your resibo and join na!

Madali lang sumali!

- Humingi lang ng Official Receipt o O.R. tuwing kakain sa labas, namimili, kumukunsulta sa duktur, abogado at kapag nag-avail ng iba pang professional services.
- I-text ang mga sumusunod sa 345 simula September 15, 2004.

To register, i-type ang:

RESIBO
-name-address
TIN of O.R.
O.R. No.*Amount
of Purchase>

Registration is free of charge.

I-send sa 345

Phone Number:
345

To submit succeeding
entries i-type ang:

RESIBO
-TIN of O.R.*
O.R. No.*
Amount of
Purchase>

Text message cost P2.50 each.

I-send sa 345

Phone Number:
345

To Report No Official
Receipts (O.R.):

NO OR
-Name of Business
Establishment*
Address of Business
Establishment>

I-send sa 345

Phone Number:
345

- Itago ang inyong mga Official Receipt. Makakakuha kayo via text ng confirmation kung ilan na ang entries ninyo. Every Php100 = 1 raffle entry. Kailangan ipakita ng winner ang actual Official Receipt for validation.
- A. these draws will be aired over RPN9 at 3:00-3:30pm, every Saturdays.



| Draw Date: | Winners per draw: | Prizes: |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| Weekly October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, 26, December 3, 10 | 38 Winners | P25,000 each |
| Monthly October 29, November 26 | 1 Winner | P1,000,000 each |
| Christmas December 17 | 3 Winners | P1,000,000 each |

Ang mga Official Receipts lang na na-issue mula September 8, 2004 ang qualified sa promo.

For more info, call the BIR Contact Center: 981-8888

SMART
Simply Amazing!

For questions, comments, or concern, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888- 33, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent at cost of the PRE TEXT allocation), email us at smart@smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

AT THE FIRST SIGN OF HAIR LOSS

MINOXIDIL Regain

the only scientifically proven over-the-counter drug in treating falling and thinning hair.

For questions on hair loss: Call **817-3303**

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 11, 2004

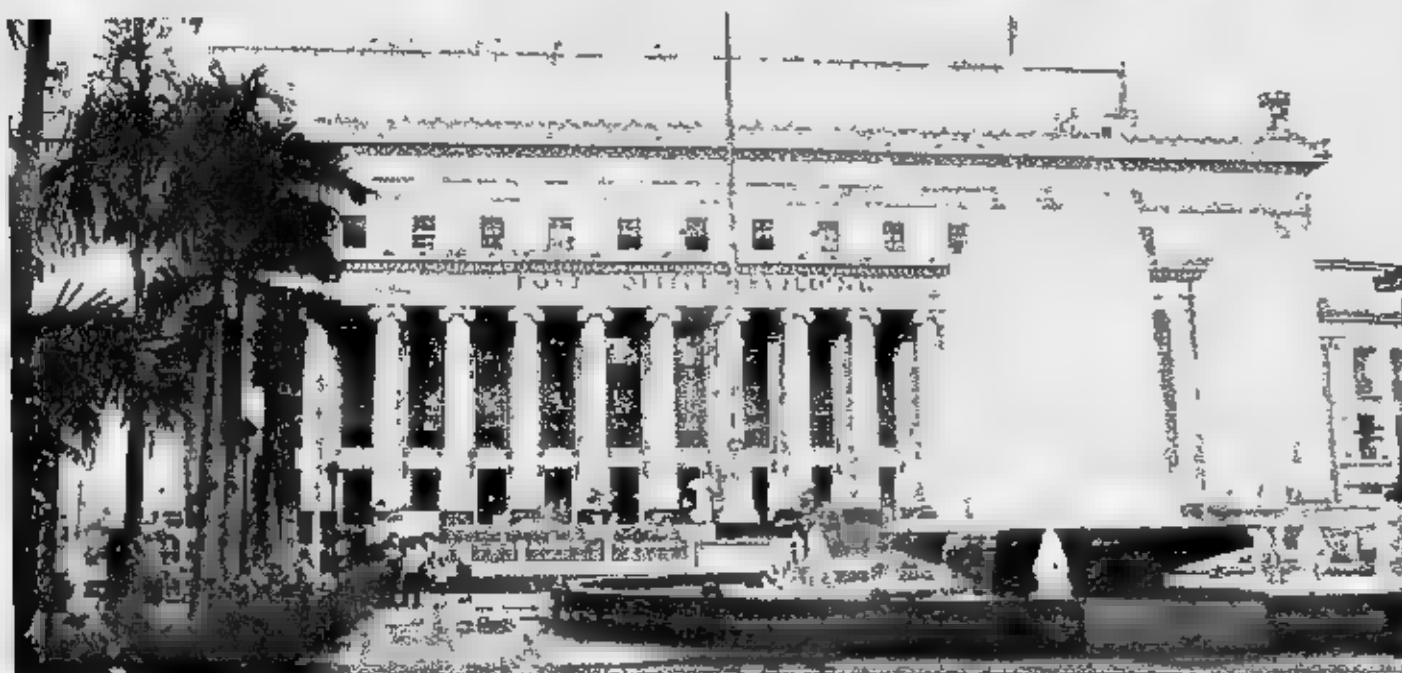
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

DI

For feedback, e-mail us at lifeStyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFE STYLE

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to
2107 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)



STRUCTURES of architectural significance such as the Manila Post Office are not officially recognized by heritage laws as worthy of protection.

Do we have the legal framework to protect our cultural heritage?

First of two parts

LEGISLATION protecting moveable and unmovable heritage has been in the Philippine legal system as early as 1901, when the newly installed United States colonial government issued an act to allow construction of a monument to the National Hero Ruzal in a public park. This is probably what has led to a government orientation toward protecting only those sites associated with heroes and personalities.

Both the executive and legislative branches recognize the need to protect historical sites and structures, proven by laws enacted before to the Philippine ratification of the Jnesco Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 1972. The government is now bound to adhere to the principles of the convention.

The range of heritage legislation includes the establishment of several commissions and administrative bodies empowered to protect heritage and legislation, prohibiting the destruction and export of national patrimony.

There is no single law that defines and protects the built heritage, which results in confusion, especially when heritage is threatened by destruction.

On the other hand, many laws regarding unrelated concerns such as indigenous peoples' issues, forestry preservation, urban-housing acts and others contain provisions that respect and protect historical sites and structures. These laws offer an unexpected window of protection for heritage.

Diverse national legislation concerns monuments, historical markers and plaques (Republic

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto E. Villalon



SUCCESS GUARANTEED after our Famous Training!

Enroll in 5 Packages: P2,300 per course only

- Speech Dynamics: Master Oral Skills
- Practical Grammar & Conversations
- Fluency and Mastery of the English Language
- Public Speaking - Personality in Action
- Verbal Advantage: Complete Package
- Survival English, or Basic English

Schedule: TTH 7-8:30PM; Sat 2-5PM; SUN 9-11PM

WCT Middle Academy
(From 3 to 15 years old)

(Speech, Theater Arts, Grammar, English Fluency, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg, & Personality Dev.) Saturdays 8-12 AM or 1-4 PM

Corporate Training & Private Tutoring are available

WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEMY OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
SINCE 1967

MANILA, SARAGAP, MARIKINA, CALABANG, CAGAYAN DE ORO, CEBU

2000 Road to the Future, Marikina City 776-7634 776-7637 776-7648 c/o Sampaloc c/o Sampaloc

www.wctacademy.com



The **BIGGEST & NEWEST** airconditioned **home DEPOT** with the **WIDEST** array of products at **LOW, LOW PRICES**

ortigas homedepot

Participating Outlets

BLIMS fine furniture

CHAMPS Home at its Best

Living Style All quality items at reasonable prices

MOM kitchen

Automatic CENTRE

WESTANK

Durable

Royal Tern

VANTAGE

SGO

homedepot

SEASONS

loftcetera

ESDECEAL

Piedra

SHINTO

Apollo

POPPINS

Decor

STORY 2000

BOCCO

CHAD

PubliMart

asiaco

ESPREME

Admiral

modulinc

Patco

ESOB

DeltaWood

...with 25,000 sq. m. floor area.

Everything you need to build your ideal home ...

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF.



#1 Ortigas Julia Vargas Ave. near Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. nos.: 683.0823; 683.0824; 636.0777; 636.0773; 636.7454

Finally, it's here...

A Food Supplement for Diabetes and Hypertensives that put almost 2,500 years of wisdom in Chinese Herbal Medicine.

In One Cup

GENIAL DEW

Food Supplement for Diabetes and Hypertensives

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Genial Dew Genial & Anapolya Tea is a traditional herbal supplement from China which prevents the progress of Diabetes & Hypertension.

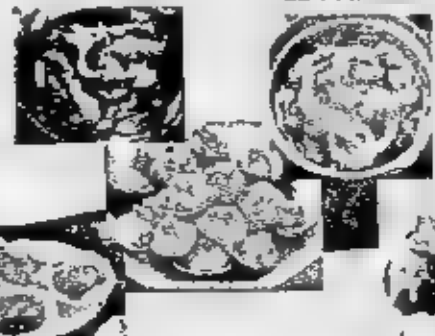
The Genial & Anapolya in every tea bag work in synergy to promote normal blood pressure, proper function of the heart, to prevent cardiovascular diseases and achieve positive blood sugar.

Daily Buffet

Tickle your taste buds with over 50 special dishes and delicacies including Peking duck and lechon courtesy of our new Hong Kong Chef. Fridays are made even more exceptional with our seafood buffet of fresh live fish, crabs, fresh shells, and shrimps.

Php 395 net (adult) / Php 280 (kids)

DAILY BUFFET
P395



fishing village RESTAURANT

"The Finest in Authentic Chinese Cuisine"

GROUND FLOOR, GOLDEN BAY HOTEL
247 PADRE FAURA ST., COR. ROXAS BLVD.
ERMITA, MANILA
TEL. # 536-8838 / 536-1916

Jack Salud's dotted arias at 139



"DREAMER'S Poetry"

WISTFUL, tranquil, warm, intimate, animated, nostalgic, subtle, simple, lyrical—these come to mind as one steps back to savor Jack Salud's intricately executed masterpieces. Once more, the pointillist artist known for his rustic figures paints scenes of serenity and bliss, a balm for these times of turmoil.

"Dotted Arias" marks Salud's 14th one-man exhibit. It opens in Gallery 139, 3/L Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, on Oct. 12 and runs until Nov. 11.

Painstakingly executed with more than a million delicate dots of paint, the large-scale canvases show Salud's trademark energetic yet restful figures set amid a breezy background of cascading leaves: musicians caught up with their instruments, a mother humming a lullaby, etc.

Salud entered the art scene in 1996, when he was invited by Chichi Salas of

Gallery Genesis to participate in the annual "Kulay sa Tubig" watercolor group exhibition.

In 1997, he opened his first solo at the Ayala Museum under Sonia Net. Salud consequently received the prestigious commission to design two of the museum's Christmas cards that year.

In 1999, he opened his first international solo exhibit in Roppongi, Tokyo, through the invitation of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

In the words of art critic Cid Reyes, "Salud's art aches with such emotional feelings, but with a mixture of understated elegance and a surfeit of ornamentation. But it is the Oriental sentiment that so pervades the mood of his works—a tranquilizing peace that envelops every figure in his domestic landscapes."

Call 7289724 or e-mail jksalud@7info.com.ph.



JACK SALUD

Torn between two loves

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

FACING the media to promote his Oct. 15-16 concerts at the Cultural Center of the Philippines marking his 50th birthday, Ryan Cayabyab confided a musical predicament.

He said pop and classical were inseparable parts of his music education and he was not ready to abandon one for the other. "Fact is, the pop music industry sometimes finds me too classical for pop and people in the classical turf finds me too pop for classical."

Very few know that Cayabyab was the son of a first rate operatic diva of the '40s and '50s, Celerina Pujante, and that from 4-14, he was into Bach and Beethoven before he discovered Bacharach.

At age 4, his mother taught him the Spanish song, "Me Gustan Todas." That is all he remembered of his mother, who died when he was only 6.

Great Filipino artists like maestra Mercedes Santiago and maestro Lucio San Pedro, even Levi Celerio, said Cayabyab's mother had one of the great voices in an earlier era.

It is easy to see why Cayabyab can't abandon classical for pop and vice versa. He loves both and gets different rewards from each.

Classical music nourishes his spirit but pop music provides for his material needs. He said one could buy flashy cars and beautiful houses simply by composing jingles, but he opted for the "bigger stuff."

Cayabyab said, "Actually the issue is not about survival. It's about what you want to do. I've always believed that when you give your best, be it classical or pop, things will work for you."

A case in point is his Missa 2000, which won the Onassis International Cultural Competitions about two years ago.

Heard in a live concert, there is no doubt the piece is a superior work. On CD, Missa 2000 remains a ravishing work, with unique vocal inputs from soloists Teresa Fajardo ("Kyrie"), Edward Granadosin ("Gloria") and Grace Nono ("Credo").

Obviously this is a piece of work that needs musicians who suit the music, not the other way around.

The soloists are not the kind that will attract extraordinary attention.

Pop and classical are inseparable parts of his music and he is not ready to abandon one for the other

But in Cayabyab's Missa 2000, their vocal prowess is perfectly suited to the piece that they seem born to essay the parts.

Take the soloist Grace Nono, for instance. Her voice will never fit in a Mozart or Verdi Mass. In Cayabyab's piece, however, she unleashes a rare kind of vocal power so uniquely overpowering in its distillation.

Apart from its well-chosen soloists, Missa 2000 also showcases the musical precision of conductor Julian Quiric, who gives the piece distinction and authority.

The San Miguel Chorale under Jonathan Veasco is another big plus of this recording. The choir has élan. The voices merge with consummate artistry.

Love songs

If Cayabyab shows his best as a classical musician in Missa 2000, one gets a taste of his pop side as musical arranger in the other San Miguel Philharmonic recording, "Great Filipino Love Songs."

From the outset, one can see that he has given those time-worn love songs a contemporary feel.

The San Miguel Philharmonic, under Amel Feliciano, has changed musical gears and turned to native romantic melodies—from Mike Velarde's "Dahil sa Iyo" and "Buhay" to Restie Ural's "Saan Ka Man Naroroon" and Ernani Cuenco's "Gaano Kita Kamahal."

Recorded at the San Miguel Philharmonic rehearsal hall, the orchestra sounded muffled in some parts and unbalanced. (This was a big contrast to Missa 2000 recorded at the PhilAm-life Theater, which has excellent acoustics.)

Even with this minor observation, "Great Filipino Love Songs" as ar-



RYAN CAYABYAB

ranged by Cayabyab deserves to be a bestseller. The encores are well-chosen and prove that Filipinos are incurably romantic—even musically.

Russian violinist

If music lovers are frustrated that there is no single aria or a violin or piano concerto in the current season of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (dominated by contemporary pieces for violin, cello and voice), take a good musical break in the second season concert of the Manila Philharmonic under Rodol Comenar.

Russian violinist Anastasia Chebotareva is back in Manila and will be soloist in the Tchaikovsky D Major Concerto on Oct. 22 at the PhilAm-life Theater. Call 7051728.

You will have a chance to see the works of our National Artist for Dance Leonor Orosa Gocquingco called "Saludo" on Feb. 10 at the Francisco Santiago Hall.

Featured performers are Dance Concert Company, the College of St. Benilde-Filipinas Dance Company and the Vella Damian School of Ballet. Call 8784358 to 59.

Classically trained

That classical training helps pop artists was confirmed by jazz and pop diva Angela Bofill, who was in top shape at age 50 as she performed to an SRO crowd at Merik's Bar Bistro on its second anniversary recently.

Bofill said her favorite opera was actually Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" and her voice lessons at the Manhattan School of Music helped her develop her own style.

"If I did not acquire the technique I learned as a classical singer, I would have been gone as a singer years ago," she said.

Do we have the legal...

From page D1

Act 841 and Presidential Decree 260), old buildings, shrines, landmarks and historic sites (RA 4846 and Presidential Decree 260), military and battle memorials (Presidential Decree 1076), edifices (Presidential Decree 1505), and immovable properties (Republic Act 8492).

To be protected by national legislation, the object or site must have national significance. A collection of laws defines significance as something that perpetuates the memory of a person or event (RA 841); having cultural, historical, anthropological or scientific value (RA 4846); site of birth, imprisonment, death, of great and eminent leaders of the nation (Presidential Decree 105), having played an important role in the "development of the nation" (Proclamation 1266).

Difficult

Architectural heritage is significant to the nation because of its artistic excellence, which, however, it is not considered a criterion for "national significance" by any law. That is why it is difficult to preserve diverse examples of architectural heritage such as the Manila Post Office, Tomás Mapúa house in Pasay, Gota de Leche building in Manila and so many other pieces of significant architecture.

RA 4846 is of special significance since it seeks protection and preservation of cultural properties which include "old buildings, monuments, shrines, documents and objects that may be classified as antiques, relics or artifacts, landmarks, anthropological and historical sites, and specimens of natural history that are of cultural, historical, anthropological or scientific value and significance to the nation."

The most significant of these objects are classified as National Cultural Treasures. Other worthy properties that have a lesser historical and cultural significance are classified as Important Cultural Properties.

The different government agencies that protect heritage are:

- District or city engineers, who are charged with "reconstruction, maintenance, cleaning and protection of monuments within their jurisdiction."

- The Department of National Defense, which has responsibility over military and battle monuments.

- The Intramuros Administration, mandated by Presidential Decree 1616,

which administers the development and reconstruction of Manila's fortified Spanish colonial center considered a major Philippine landmark.

- The National Historical Institute which identifies, designates and marks historic places and has the responsibility of their maintenance, including construction and reconstruction of monuments in their care.

National Museum

- The National Museum, which takes charge of the "restoration, reconstruction and preservation of government historical buildings, shrines, landmarks, monuments and sites" listed under the National Cultural Treasures or Important Cultural Treasures programs; it also must provide archaeological clearance before any construction is done on any Archaeological Zone.

- The National Commission for Culture and the Arts, which administers government funds for culture and the arts, and whose board consists of four private-sector representatives and heads of cultural agencies (National Museum, National Historical Institute, National Library, National Archives, National Language Institute, Department of Education, Department of Tourism). It exercises administrative supervision over the National Historical Institute and National Museum and coordinates their policies and programs. It is also authorized to preserve all aspects and forms of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Other government agencies overlap in the mandate to protect heritage, particularly archaeological sites, historical sites and structures, although heritage protection is not the agency's major function.

- The National Commission on Indigenous People empowers cultural communities or indigenous people to preserve and manage their artifacts, archaeological and historical sites, allowing them to receive national funds for preservation and management of their heritage sites.



E-mail the author at
afvillalon@hotmail.com

FURTHER destruction of the abandoned train station in San Fernando, Pampanga, is now prohibited by protective legislation enacted by the city.

If you have time on your hands, you'll have this on your lap.



HANDS ON
MANILA

Hands On Manila is inviting you to auction off your free time in exchange for gadgets and gizmos on Volunteer in Person Day, October 24, 2004, Sunday, NBC Tent at the Fort, from 9 am to 3 pm. Auction starts at 12 noon.

VIP

Eating healthy everyday

BUSY LIFESTYLE

Nowadays, eating a complete, balanced meal can be a challenge. Constantly beating deadlines and a hectic schedule can make busy people ignore the importance of nutrition. Eating becomes simply a hurried task of grabbing a bite to calm hunger pangs. When frequently done, this unhealthy practice can become a habit that puts you at risk of undernutrition. However, eating healthy need not be tough and time-consuming. Simple, nutritious meals are still possible despite a busy lifestyle.

What does eating healthy mean?

Eating healthy means choosing food that provides all the nutrients needed by your body to function at its best.¹ Nutrients supply energy for work and physical activities, regulate body processes and provide materials for growth and tissue repair.²

What are the nutrients needed by the body?

The body needs macronutrients (proteins, carbohydrates, fats and

water) and micronutrients (vitamins and minerals).¹ The body also needs fiber, which gives protection against diseases (cancer, constipation and cardiovascular disease) and antioxidants that prevent cell damage caused by free radicals (cancer, cataract and atherosclerosis).

Fat and sugar provide energy but should be taken less in the diet.

What happens when you do not eat enough to meet your nutritional needs?

You may suffer from malnutrition that can be in the form of undernutrition.³ Undernutrition

carbohydrates, proteins and fat that you need for the day. It contains more whey protein than milk and provides a healthy source of fat that does not contribute to bad cholesterol in the body. Moreover, it has all the vitamins and minerals that help regulate body processes.

What are the other benefits of a meal supplement?

It is easy to prepare. Just add it to water for a nutritionally complete, delicious drink. It does not only calm hunger pangs but also offers complete nutrition to make you feel stronger everyday.

Is taking a meal supplement equivalent to eating healthy?

Definitely. Taking a meal supplement like Nutren® Optimum is the next best alternative to a complete, balanced meal for those busy days when you do not have time to eat healthy.

References

1. Healthy eating. Palo Alto Medical Foundation Web site. Available at: www.pamf.org/healthy/healthyinfo/index.cfm?page=article&cat=1&id=4&art_id=nut. Accessed September 18, 2004. 2. Nutritional guidelines for Filipinos. Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) Web site. Available at: www.infocsi.gov.ph/vgnilesing1.htm. Accessed September 29, 2004. 3. Nutritional disorders. The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy. Available at: www.merck.com/mrckhore/immunization/section4/chapter22a.jsp. Accessed September 30, 2004. 4. Malnutrition. Medical Encyclopedia. Available at: www.unhcr.org/refugeesplus/. Accessed September 21, 2004.

A busy lifestyle need not put you at risk of undernutrition. Meal supplementation can be a healthy eating alternative.

How can you get all these nutrients?

A healthy, well-balanced diet is the key to complete nutrition.² Starches and grains should be the foundation of your diet. These provide carbohydrates as well as some fiber, protein, vitamins and minerals. Vegetables and fruits are good sources of vitamins, minerals and fiber, while protein-rich foods should be taken in moderate amounts.

usually results from inadequate dietary intake. This may manifest as fatigue, dizziness, weight loss and susceptibility to infection.⁴

How can you meet your nutritional needs if you do not have time for a healthy, well-balanced meal?

A meal supplement like Nutren® Optimum offers a complete nutrition in a jiffy. A glass of Nutren® Optimum provides all the

IF SOMEONE YOU ARE CARING FOR HAS SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS, BUILD THEIR STRENGTH WITH NUTREN.

When you're looking after a loved one's particular needs, you become aware of how things can suddenly change.

Now, their current medical condition prevents them from being as active as they once were.

Bring back the spark and energy into their lives with a better way of caring. One that can make them feel stronger everyday.

Nutren is a delicious meal replacement product and supplement in powder form -- a breakthrough from the Nestlé Research Center in Switzerland. Known and prescribed by doctors, Nutren provides support for medical conditions where the role of nutrition is vital. In itself, Nutren is more than a complete meal since it contains whey plus all of the essential nutrients, vitamins and minerals in every glass.

In fact, Nutren contains at least 3 times more whey protein than any other commercially-prepared food product or homemade alternative. Whey protein has been clinically proven to:

- help maintain muscle mass throughout aging and repair body tissues¹
- help boost the immune system by raising levels of glutathione (an antioxidant), thereby helping reduce the risk of infection²

| | WHEY |
|-------------------------|------|
| Nutren Meal Replacement | HIGH |
| Milk supplements | LOW |
| Table food | NONE |

With Nutren, you can give the best and complete care possible, making everyday a special one to look forward to.

FEEL STRONGER EVERYDAY



Available at all leading drugstores nationwide.



¹ Walker, B.A., C.J. Ockene, and T.R. Cerven. *Chol. Res. Food & Diet*. May, 40:353, 2003. ² Walker, A. *Cholest. Res* 1994;54(5):199-199.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT NUTREN: If you want to know more about other Nestlé products, you can call us at 888-2861 and we'll be happy to answer your medical questions.



all I want is in
myGLOBE
exclusive

STAR WARS TRILOGY

THE SEPERATE
STORIES
ONLY IN myGLOBE

Text STARWARS to 2949

Wallpaper: To download, text <keyword> to 2949. Ex. W1 to 2949



Icons: To download, text <keyword> to 2949.
Ex. L19 to 2949



Screen Themes



To download Animated Wallpaper & Screen Themes:
Go to the myGlobe WAP site. Under What's Hot, click on
Star Wars. Then click on the category of your choice.

Subscription Services:
Text FORCE to 2949 to get weekly wallpaper
Text JEDI to 2949 to get daily trivia
Text YODA to 2949 to get weekly facts

Be ready for the Sith, here in myGlobe.



Download now and get a chance to win a Plasma TV Home Theater
system and a Limited Edition Star Wars Trilogy DVD box-set.

Per DT: NCR Permit No. 2167 Series of 2004

Plus, get a G-Plan between October 9 to November 14, 2004
to own the limited edition DVD box-set.

Per DT: NCR Permit No. 2169 Series of 2004



making great things possible

Globe

HANDYPHONE



© 2004 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM. All Rights Reserved. Used under authorization.
STAR WARS and associated characters, names, places and events are the property of
Lucasfilm Ltd. "myGlobe" and "Globe" are trademarks of myGlobe Ltd. and are used under license.

Rates per download:
P2.50 for daily trivia
P15.00 for weekly facts
P20.00 for colored and animated wallpaper
P30.00 for screen themes

To ensure successful MMS/Polytone download, activate your GPRS and MMS now!

1. For a list of compatible MMS & GPRS handsets, send NOKIA, ERICSSON or SAMSUNG (depending on your handset model) to 2385. Regular text messaging charges apply.
2. Text GO <handset model> to 2951 to get your phone's settings. Ex. GO N3650. For Nokia 6220, 6230, 6600, 6620, 7200, 3220 and 7610 text GO <handset model>, 1234 to 2951. Make sure that you type in the two commas before the 1234 PIN.

3. Enter 1234 when asked for PIN to save the settings.
4. Send an MMS message for only P5.00 to activate the service.

Now you can send MMS to other mobile networks.

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.phText us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/city/message to:
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Breathless in Binondo

BEAUTY truly lies in the eyes of the beholder. When I think of Binondo, I think of decaying buildings and cold contemporary office blocks.

I wouldn't have seen the beauty of Binondo if it weren't for the fact that I was toured by a friend who loves the district. What treasures it has that are waiting for anyone who will take the time to look carefully!

Being close to the ports, Binondo has always been an important commercial district. Many of the city's most fashion-

ALL4ART



Bea Zobel Jr.

able shops were found here.

Nineteenth-century travel writers mentioned its wide streets busy with commerce as well as the elegant establishments and mansions of the wealthy. To quote Augusto Villalon,

"It thrived during the Spanish colonial years, when it traded in silks, Persian rugs, ivory, ilang-ilang essence, spices and other Oriental treasures."

Today, Binondo is known as Manila's Chinatown.

We began our rounds at the foot of Jones Bridge, where Escota street begins. Before it was replaced by Makati, Escota was Manila's shopping emporium. First stop was Capitol Theatre. Its Art Deco ornamentation is marvelous. There is a relief carving of two women in ternos each holding a symbol of the theater. The facade also features a geometric grill. The whole theater is an example of traditional Filipino imagery meeting the modern.

Next we visited the museum at the Caño Building, now being run by the Teoticos who are the descendants of the original owners. This is a little jewel of a museum. It features old newspapers and advertisements, bottles and photographs.

There was an 1899 newspaper showing that even then, Rizal was already regarded a hero and martyr.

STYLE

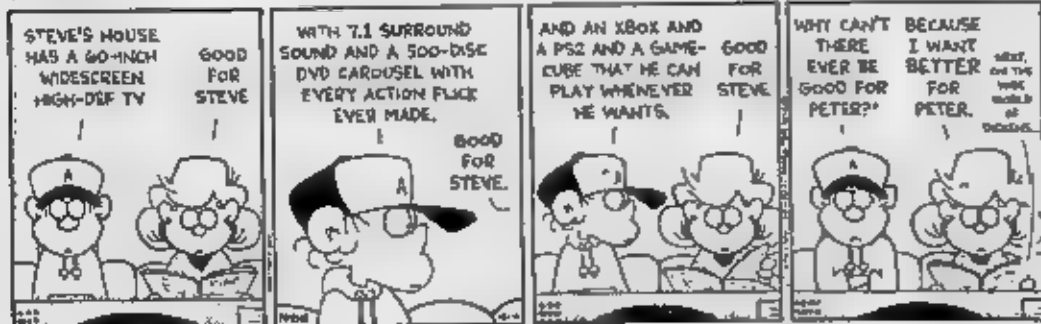
DETAIL of windows from house in San Nicolas

BOOST YOUR MEMORY
Enroll in **POWER MEMORY**.
STORE • RETAIN • RECALL
Information for long term.
Memorize in easy, fun and stress-free steps!
See results immediately!
Effective for students, professionals, sales and business people of all ages.
Money-back guarantee.
Classes are ongoing!!
Call: 8158158 • 8158185 or
Text: POWER MEMORY to 2208
PERSONAL AND CORPORATE TRAINING AVAILABLE

FREE CLASS!
Power memory
Organ for Learning

LEXBER HOMES
BAGUIO CITY
Own A Vacation Home At The Finest City
For Only P. 399 Thousand Cash Cost
Call: 312-3123 • 312-3124 • 312-3125 • 312-3126 • 312-3127 • 312-3128 • 312-3129 • 312-3130 • 312-3131 • 312-3132 • 312-3133 • 312-3134 • 312-3135 • 312-3136 • 312-3137 • 312-3138 • 312-3139 • 312-3140 • 312-3141 • 312-3142 • 312-3143 • 312-3144 • 312-3145 • 312-3146 • 312-3147 • 312-3148 • 312-3149 • 312-3150 • 312-3151 • 312-3152 • 312-3153 • 312-3154 • 312-3155 • 312-3156 • 312-3157 • 312-3158 • 312-3159 • 312-3160 • 312-3161 • 312-3162 • 312-3163 • 312-3164 • 312-3165 • 312-3166 • 312-3167 • 312-3168 • 312-3169 • 312-3170 • 312-3171 • 312-3172 • 312-3173 • 312-3174 • 312-3175 • 312-3176 • 312-3177 • 312-3178 • 312-3179 • 312-3180 • 312-3181 • 312-3182 • 312-3183 • 312-3184 • 312-3185 • 312-3186 • 312-3187 • 312-3188 • 312-3189 • 312-3190 • 312-3191 • 312-3192 • 312-3193 • 312-3194 • 312-3195 • 312-3196 • 312-3197 • 312-3198 • 312-3199 • 312-3200 • 312-3201 • 312-3202 • 312-3203 • 312-3204 • 312-3205 • 312-3206 • 312-3207 • 312-3208 • 312-3209 • 312-3210 • 312-3211 • 312-3212 • 312-3213 • 312-3214 • 312-3215 • 312-3216 • 312-3217 • 312-3218 • 312-3219 • 312-3220 • 312-3221 • 312-3222 • 312-3223 • 312-3224 • 312-3225 • 312-3226 • 312-3227 • 312-3228 • 312-3229 • 312-3230 • 312-3231 • 312-3232 • 312-3233 • 312-3234 • 312-3235 • 312-3236 • 312-3237 • 312-3238 • 312-3239 • 312-3240 • 312-3241 • 312-3242 • 312-3243 • 312-3244 • 312-3245 • 312-3246 • 312-3247 • 312-3248 • 312-3249 • 312-3250 • 312-3251 • 312-3252 • 312-3253 • 312-3254 • 312-3255 • 312-3256 • 312-3257 • 312-3258 • 312-3259 • 312-3260 • 312-3261 • 312-3262 • 312-3263 • 312-3264 • 312-3265 • 312-3266 • 312-3267 • 312-3268 • 312-3269 • 312-3270 • 312-3271 • 312-3272 • 312-3273 • 312-3274 • 312-3275 • 312-3276 • 312-3277 • 312-3278 • 312-3279 • 312-3280 • 312-3281 • 312-3282 • 312-3283 • 312-3284 • 312-3285 • 312-3286 • 312-3287 • 312-3288 • 312-3289 • 312-3290 • 312-3291 • 312-3292 • 312-3293 • 312-3294 • 312-3295 • 312-3296 • 312-3297 • 312-3298 • 312-3299 • 312-3300 • 312-3301 • 312-3302 • 312-3303 • 312-3304 • 312-3305 • 312-3306 • 312-3307 • 312-3308 • 312-3309 • 312-3310 • 312-3311 • 312-3312 • 312-3313 • 312-3314 • 312-3315 • 312-3316 • 312-3317 • 312-3318 • 312-3319 • 312-3320 • 312-3321 • 312-3322 • 312-3323 • 312-3324 • 312-3325 • 312-3326 • 312-3327 • 312-3328 • 312-3329 • 312-3330 • 312-3331 • 312-3332 • 312-3333 • 312-3334 • 312-3335 • 312-3336 • 312-3337 • 312-3338 • 312-3339 • 312-3340 • 312-3341 • 312-3342 • 312-3343 • 312-3344 • 312-3345 • 312-3346 • 312-3347 • 312-3348 • 312-3349 • 312-3350 • 312-3351 • 312-3352 • 312-3353 • 312-3354 • 312-3355 • 312-3356 • 312-3357 • 312-3358 • 312-3359 • 312-3360 • 312-3361 • 312-3362 • 312-3363 • 312-3364 • 312-3365 • 312-3366 • 312-3367 • 312-3368 • 312-3369 • 312-3370 • 312-3371 • 312-3372 • 312-3373 • 312-3374 • 312-3375 • 312-3376 • 312-3377 • 312-3378 • 312-3379 • 312-3380 • 312-3381 • 312-3382 • 312-3383 • 312-3384 • 312-3385 • 312-3386 • 312-3387 • 312-3388 • 312-3389 • 312-3390 • 312-3391 • 312-3392 • 312-3393 • 312-3394 • 312-3395 • 312-3396 • 312-3397 • 312-3398 • 312-3399 • 312-3400 • 312-3401 • 312-3402 • 312-3403 • 312-3404 • 312-3405 • 312-3406 • 312-3407 • 312-3408 • 312-3409 • 312-3410 • 312-3411 • 312-3412 • 312-3413 • 312-3414 • 312-3415 • 312-3416 • 312-3417 • 312-3418 • 312-3419 • 312-3420 • 312-3421 • 312-3422 • 312-3423 • 312-3424 • 312-3425 • 312-3426 • 312-3427 • 312-3428 • 312-3429 • 312-3430 • 312-3431 • 312-3432 • 312-3433 • 312-3434 • 312-3435 • 312-3436 • 312-3437 • 312-3438 • 312-3439 • 312-3440 • 312-3441 • 312-3442 • 312-3443 • 312-3444 • 312-3445 • 312-3446 • 312-3447 • 312-3448 • 312-3449 • 312-3450 • 312-3451 • 312-3452 • 312-3453 • 312-3454 • 312-3455 • 312-3456 • 312-3457 • 312-3458 • 312-3459 • 312-3460 • 312-3461 • 312-3462 • 312-3463 • 312-3464 • 312-3465 • 312-3466 • 312-3467 • 312-3468 • 312-3469 • 312-3470 • 312-3471 • 312-3472 • 312-3473 • 312-3474 • 312-3475 • 312-3476 • 312-3477 • 312-3478 • 312-3479 • 312-3480 • 312-3481 • 312-3482 • 312-3483 • 312-3484 • 312-3485 • 312-3486 • 312-3487 • 312-3488 • 312-3489 • 312-3490 • 312-3491 • 312-3492 • 312-3493 • 312-3494 • 312-3495 • 312-3496 • 312-3497 • 312-3498 • 312-3499 • 312-3500 • 312-3501 • 312-3502 • 312-3503 • 312-3504 • 312-3505 • 312-3506 • 312-3507 • 312-3508 • 312-3509 • 312-3510 • 312-3511 • 312-3512 • 312-3513 • 312-3514 • 312-3515 • 312-3516 • 312-3517 • 312-3518 • 312-3519 • 312-3520 • 312-3521 • 312-3522 • 312-3523 • 312-3524 • 312-3525 • 312-3526 • 312-3527 • 312-3528 • 312-3529 • 312-3530 • 312-3531 • 312-3532 • 312-3533 • 312-3534 • 312-3535 • 312-3536 • 312-3537 • 312-3538 • 312-3539 • 312-3540 • 312-3541 • 312-3542 • 312-3543 • 312-3544 • 312-3545 • 312-3546 • 312-3547 • 312-3548 • 312-3549 • 312-3550 • 312-3551 • 312-3552 • 312-3553 • 312-3554 • 312-3555 • 312-3556 • 312-3557 • 312-3558 • 312-3559 • 312-3560 • 312-3561 • 312-3562 • 312-3563 • 312-3564 • 312-3565 • 312-3566 • 312-3567 • 312-3568 • 312-3569 • 312-3570 • 312-3571 • 312-3572 • 312-3573 • 312-3574 • 312-3575 • 312-3576 • 312-3577 • 312-3578 • 312-3579 • 312-3580 • 312-3581 • 312-3582 • 312-3583 • 312-3584 • 312-3585 • 312-3586 • 312-3587 • 312-3588 • 312-3589 • 312-3590 • 312-3591 • 312-3592 • 312-3593 • 312-3594 • 312-3595 • 312-3596 • 312-3597 • 312-3598 • 312-3599 • 312-3600 • 312-3601 • 312-3602 • 312-3603 • 312-3604 • 312-3605 • 312-3606 • 312-3607 • 312-3608 • 312-3609 • 312-3610 • 312-3611 • 312-3612 • 312-3613 • 312-3614 • 312-3615 • 312-3616 • 312-3617 • 312-3618 • 312-3619 • 312-3620 • 312-3621 • 312-3622 • 312-3623 • 312-3624 • 312-3625 • 312-3626 • 312-3627 • 312-3628 • 312-3629 • 312-3630 • 312-3631 • 312-3632 • 312-3633 • 312-3634 • 312-3635 • 312-3636 • 312-3637 • 312-3638 • 312-3639 • 312-3640 • 312-3641 • 312-3642 • 312-3643 • 312-3644 • 312-3645 • 312-3646 • 312-3647 • 312-3648 • 312-3649 • 312-3650 • 312-3651 • 312-3652 • 312-3653 • 312-3654 • 312-3655 • 312-3656 • 312-3657 • 312-3658 • 312-3659 • 312-3660 • 312-3661 • 312-3662 • 312-3663 • 312-3664 • 312-3665 • 312-3666 • 312-3667 • 312-3668 • 312-3669 • 312-3670 • 312-3671 • 312-3672 • 312-3673 • 312-3674 • 312-3675 • 312-3676 • 312-3677 • 312-3678 • 312-3679 • 312-3680 • 312-3681 • 312-3682 • 312-3683 • 312-3684 • 312-3685 • 312-3686 • 312-3687 • 312-3688 • 312-3689 • 312-3690 • 312-3691 • 312-3692 • 312-3693 • 312-3694 • 312-3695 • 312-3696 • 312-3697 • 312-3698 • 312-3699 • 312-3700 • 312-3701 • 312-3702 • 312-3703 • 312-3704 • 312-3705 • 312-3706 • 312-3707 • 312-3708 • 312-3709 • 312-3710 • 312-3711 • 312-3712 • 312-3713 • 312-3714 • 312-3715 • 312-3716 • 312-3717 • 312-3718 • 312-3719 • 312-3720 • 312-3721 • 312-3722 • 312-3723 • 312-3724 • 312-3725 • 312-3726 • 312-3727 • 312-3728 • 312-3729 • 312-3730 • 312-3731 • 312-3732 • 312-3733 • 312-3734 • 312-3735 • 312-3736 • 312-3737 • 312-3738 • 312-3739 • 312-3740 • 312-3741 • 312-3742 • 312-3743 • 312-3744 • 312-3745 • 312-3746 • 312-3747 • 312-3748 • 312-3749 • 312-3750 • 312-3751 • 312-3752 • 312-3753 • 312-3754 • 312-3755 • 312-3756 • 312-3757 • 312-3758 • 312-3759 • 312-3760 • 312-3761 • 312-3762 • 312-3763 • 312-3764 • 312-3765 • 312-3766 • 312-3767 • 312-3768 • 312-3769 • 312-3770 • 312-3771 • 312-3772 • 312-3773 • 312-3774 • 312-3775 • 312-3776 • 312-3777 • 312-3778 • 312-3779 • 312-3780 • 312-3781 • 312-3782 • 312-3783 • 312-3784 • 312-3785 • 312-3786 • 312-3787 • 312-3788 • 312-3789 • 312-3790 • 312-3791 • 312-3792 • 312-3793 • 312-3794 • 312-3795 • 312-3796 • 312-3797 • 312-3798 • 312-3799 • 312-3800 • 312-3801 • 312-3802 • 312-3803 • 312-3804 • 312-3805 • 312-3806 • 312-3807 • 312-3808 • 312-3809 • 312-3810 • 312-3811 • 312-3812 • 312-3813 • 312-3814 • 312-3815 • 312-3816 • 312-3817 • 312-3818 • 312-3819 • 312-3820 • 312-3821 • 312-3822 • 312-3823 • 312-3824 • 312-3825 • 312-3826 • 312-3827 • 312-3828 • 312-3829 • 312-3830 • 312-3831 • 312-3832 • 312-3833 • 312-3834 • 312-3835 • 312-3836 • 312-3837 • 312-3838 • 312-3839 • 312-3840 • 312-3841 • 312-3842 • 312-3843 • 312-3844 • 312-3845 • 312-3846 • 312-3847 • 312-3848 • 312-3849 • 312-3850 • 312-3851 • 312-3852 • 312-3853 • 312-3854 • 312-3855 • 312-3856 • 312-3857 • 312-3858 • 312-3859 • 312-3860 • 312-3861 • 312-3862 • 312-3863 • 312-3864 • 312-3865 • 312-3866 • 312-3867 • 312-3868 • 312-3869 • 312-3870 • 312-3871 • 312-3872 • 312-3873 • 312-3874 • 312-3875 • 312-3876 • 312-3877 • 312-3878 • 312-3879 • 312-3880 • 312-3881 • 312-3882 • 312-3883 • 312-3884 • 312-3885 • 312-3886 • 312-3887 • 312-3888 • 312-3889 • 312-3890 • 312-3891 • 312-3892 • 312-3893 • 312-3894 • 312-3895 • 312-3896 • 312-3897 • 312-3898 • 312-3899 • 312-3900 • 312-3901 • 312-3902 • 312-3903 • 312-3904 • 312-3905 • 312-3906 • 312-3907 • 312-3908 • 312-3909 • 312-3910 • 312-3911 • 312-3912 • 312-3913 • 312-3914 • 312-3915 • 312-3916 • 312-3917 • 312-3918 • 312-3919 • 312-3920 • 312-3921 • 312-3922 • 312-3923 • 312-3924 • 312-3925 • 312-3926 • 312-3927 • 312-3928 • 312-3929 • 312-3930 • 312-3931 • 312-3932 • 312-3933 • 312-3934 • 312-3935 • 312-3936 • 312-3937 • 312-3938 • 312-3939 • 312-3940 • 312-3941 • 312-3942 • 312-3943 • 312-3944 • 312-3945 • 312-3946 • 312-3947 • 312-3948 • 312-3949 • 312-3950 • 312-3951 • 312-3952 • 312-3953 • 312-3954 • 312-3955 • 312-3956 • 312-3957 • 312-3958 • 312-3959 • 312-3960 • 312-3961 • 312-3962 • 312-3963 • 312-3964 • 312-3965 • 312-3966 • 312-3967 • 312-3968 • 312-3969 • 312-3970 • 312-3971 • 312-3972 • 312-3973 • 312-3974 • 312-3975 • 312-3976 • 312-3977 • 312-3978 • 312-3979 • 312-3980 • 312-3981 • 312-3982 • 312-3983 • 312-3984 • 312-3985 • 312-3986 • 312-3987 • 312-3988 • 312-3989 • 312-3990 • 312-3991 • 312-3992 • 312-3993 • 312-3994 • 312-3995 • 312-3996 • 312-3997 • 312-3998 • 312-3999 • 312-4000 • 312-4001 • 312-4002 • 312-4003 • 312-4004 • 312-4005 • 312-4006 • 312-4007 • 312-4008 • 312-4009 • 312-4010 • 312-4011 • 312-4012 • 312-4013 • 312-4014 • 312-4015 • 312-4016 • 312-4017 • 312-4018 • 312-4019 • 312-4020 • 312-4021 • 312-4022 • 312-4023 • 312-4024 • 312-4025 • 312-4026 • 312-4027 • 312-4028 • 312-4029 • 312-4030 • 312-4031 • 312-4032 • 312-4033 • 312-4034 • 312-4035 • 312-4036 • 312-4037 • 312-4038 • 312-4039 • 312-4040 • 312-4041 • 312-4042 • 312-4043 • 312-4044 • 312-4045 • 312-4046 • 312-4047 • 312-4048 • 312-4049 • 312-4050 • 312-4051 • 312-4052 • 312-4053 • 312-4054 • 312-4055 • 312-4056 • 312-4057 • 312-4058 • 312-4059 • 312-4060 • 312-4061 • 312-4062 • 312-4063 • 312-4064 • 312-4065 • 312-4066 • 312-4067 • 312-4068 • 312-4069 • 312-4070 • 312-4071 • 312-4072 • 312-4073 • 312-4074 • 312-4075 • 312-4076 • 312-4077 • 312-4078 • 312-4079 • 312-4080 • 312-4081 • 312-4082 • 312-4083 • 312-4084 • 312-4085 • 312-4086 • 312-4087 • 312-4088 • 312-4089 • 312-4090 • 312-4091 • 312-4092 • 312-4093 • 312-4094 • 312-4095 • 312-4096 • 312-4097 • 312-4098 • 312-4099 • 312-4100 • 312-4101 • 312-4102 • 312-4103 • 312-4104 • 312-4105 • 312-4106 • 312-4107 • 312-4108 • 312-4109 • 312-4110 • 312-4111 • 312-4112 • 312-4113 • 312-4114 • 312-4115 • 312-4116 • 312-4117 • 312-4118 • 312-4119 • 312-4120 • 312-4121 • 312-4122 • 312-4123 • 312-4124 • 312-4125 • 312-4126 • 312-4127 • 312-4128 • 312-4129 • 312-4130 • 312-4131 • 312-4132 • 312-4133 • 312-4134 • 312-4135 • 312-4136 • 312-4137 • 312-4138 • 312-4139 • 312-4140 • 312-4141 • 312-4142 • 312-4143 • 312-4144 • 312-4145 • 312-4146 • 312-4147 • 312-4148 • 312-4149 • 312-4150 • 312-4151 • 312-4152 • 312-4153 • 312-4154 • 312-4155 • 312-4156 • 312-4157 • 312-4158 • 312-4159 • 312-4160 • 312-4161 • 312-4162 • 312-4163 • 312-4164 • 312-4165 • 312-4166 • 312-4167 • 312-4168 • 312-4169 • 312-4170 • 312-4171 • 312-4172 • 312-4173 • 312-4174 • 312-4175 • 312-4176 • 312-4177 • 312-4178 • 312-4179 • 312-4180 • 312-4181 • 312-4182 • 312-4183 • 312-4184 • 312-4185 • 312-4186 • 312-4187 • 312-4188 • 312-4189 • 312-4190 • 312-4191 • 312-4192 • 312-4193 • 312-4194 • 312-4195 • 312-4196 • 312-4197 • 312-4198 • 312-4199 • 312-4200 • 312-4201 • 312-4202 • 312-4203 • 312-4204 • 312-4205 • 312-4206 • 312-4207 •

FOXTROT



BY BILL AMEND A LPM

BY JESS ABRERA



MARVIN



BY TOM ARMSTRONG

PUGAD BABOY



BY PM, JUNIOR

BABY BLUES



BY JERRY SCOTT

MUTTS



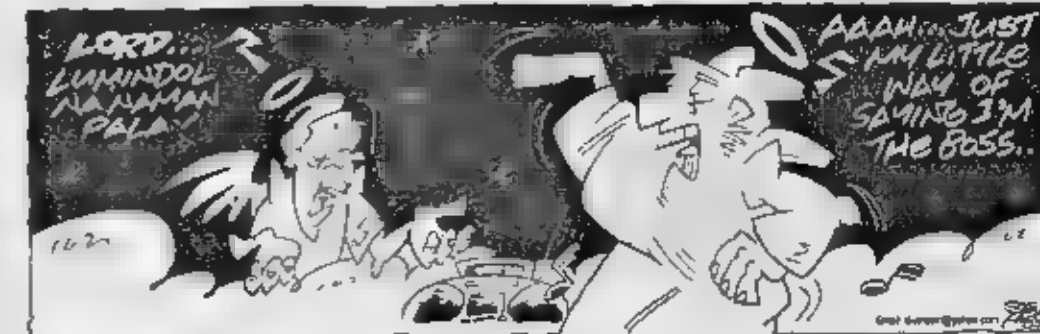
BY PATRICK McDONNELL

ATOMO AND WEBOY



BY LYRA GARCELLANO

DIVINE COMEDY



BY STEVEN PABALINAS

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a vivid imagination, and strong opinions about society and social structures. You have a charming personality, but you mean business when you're working. You especially have a talent for finding simple solutions to problems. Many things are winding up this year. Let go so that you can create room for new things to enter.

Birthdate of: Jane Krakowski, actress; Eleanor Roosevelt, US first lady; Henry Heinz, business founder

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Many of you are confronting hidden aspects of yourselves. **JRANUS** is traveling through your 12th house. You'll become more aware of who you really are.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): You feel that your boss is increasingly repressive. You can see that "last straw" slowly approaching. Don't do anything rash until you're ready for the fallout.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): Many of you will encounter unusual, passionate relationships this year! They'll definitely be the stuff of movies. Consider it great material for your diary, if you have time to keep one.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): You might feel increasing pressure from a group now. Perhaps others want you to be something that you're not. It's important for you to stand your ground.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Many of you have wonderful opportunities to expand your awareness of life and the world around you. New religions, philosophies and ideas appear to you now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Those of you who have fallen into static, frozen relationships will encounter a few surprises in the next year or two. **JRANUS** is going to shake things up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You will soon find that you have a new attitude toward your job. Alternatively, many of you will change jobs in the next few years.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You can expect some surprises coming your way through your children (if you're a parent). You're single. You can expect some surprising and unusual love affairs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Old ties with the past will likely be broken now and in the next few years. You will re-establish new roots in the future, but you will never let anyone dominate you again.

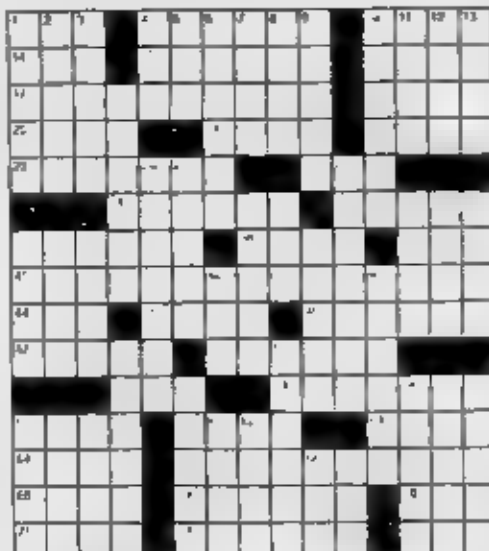
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Increasingly, you will not be that in the next year, your everyday world becomes more exciting and full of wonder. It's great to be learning new ideas and meeting new people!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Changes to your job and your source of income are likely in the next few years. Don't worry—these changes will ultimately be for the better.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): In the next few years, your drive for freedom will increase. You will not tolerate any kind of repression or restriction in your life. Your need for independence is growing!

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Take measures
 - John Ritter sitcom, "Company"
 - "Rich Man, Poor Man" author Irwin
 - King of France
 - Don't leave me behind!
 - Fabled loser
 - Enough at the bar?
 - Charly
 - Local
 - Prepare for sowing
 - Gusto
 - Roller pastry
 - Na Na
 - Disclose
 - Portents
 - Tribute
 - Ransack
 - Dairy farm sound
 - W4 at the bar?
 - Decade count
 - Tend to the soup
 - Jessie
 - Plus feature
 - Small river
 - Sorte
 - Without time notation
 - Barbed spear
 - Latin 101 verb
 - Identical
 - You wish!
 - Actor at the bar?
 - Tick off
 - Ona-celled organism
 - Cavity
 - Dancing gale
 - Removed suet from
 - Capone and Pacino



By Norma Steinberg
San Francisco, CA

10/11/04

Saturday's Puzzle Solved



- DOWN**
- Gerardo's pastry
 - Woo
 - Cook's clock
 - Gemini count
 - Embody
 - Mini-wave
 - Etc.'s cousin
 - Continental dough
 - Gushes
 - Magic word
 - In good health
 - Weaponry
 - Left on a map
 - Zodiac sign
 - Fixed
 - disgusting
 - Happening
 - Impetuous person
 - Warn
 - Scor's toilet
 - Poet Lazarus
 - lunchtime
 - Classify
 - Mice in Gp.
 - Alternative votes
 - Part of the eye
 - Frequently
 - Bro's sibling
 - See past the disguise
 - French tower
 - Hurries
 - Largest of seven
 - Occupy completely
 - "La Boheme" role
 - Unit, author
 - Justice Fortas
 - Scoundrel

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO



BEN



BY DANIEL SHELTON

KIKO MACHINE



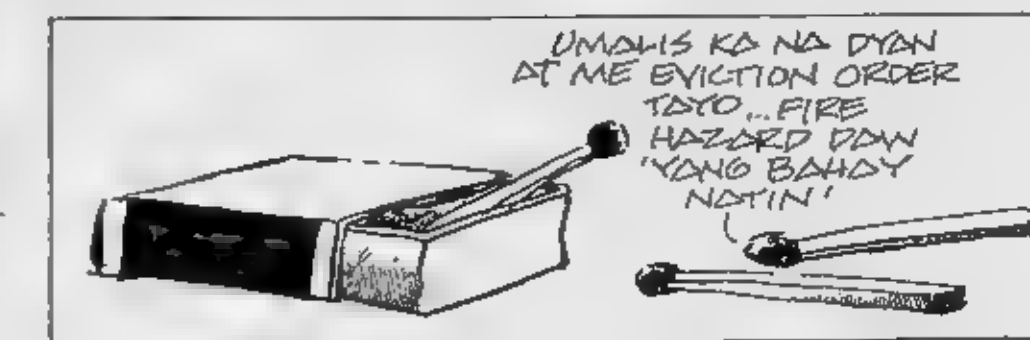
BY MANIX ABRERA

LOVEKNOTS



BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

TULDOK



BY PAPU AND TATUNG MILAMBILING



"BLUE Mountains"



"SOLITUDE"

Isa Lorenzo photo exhibit to benefit cancer group

SILVER Lens at Pacific Plaza Towers at The Fort has mounted "Healing Spaces," a collection of black-and-white photographs by Isa Lorenzo.

The proceeds will go to the I Can Serve Foundation, which is dedicated to empowering women with breast cancer.

"Our space will showcase the most relevant photography in the country," said Lorenzo, who has a Masters Degree in Media and Photography from the Parson's School of Design in New York.

At I Can Serve, breast cancer survivors reach out to other survivors and cancer support groups to help them recover and heal.

The photographs in the "Healing Spaces" exhibit have been turned into occasional note cards, which are very timely for



THE PHOTOGRAPHER and woman behind Silver Lens

Christmas. Call 8428961

I Can Serve is led by Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala, Crisann Olives Geldran together with Liza Juan, Lian Chua, Dayday David, Bet Lazatin and Tina Gutierrez. It networks with Vicky Jalandoni, Cecile Alvarez, Maritoni Fernandez, Lydia Paredes, Ellen Tordesillas, Heidi Yorac, Alice Orleans, Meryl Graham, Julie Torejon, Tang Singson and Bettina Osmaña.

The foundation produces breast cancer awareness TV commercials. It has published "I Can Serve: A Network of People Places and Services in the service of the Philippine Breast Cancer Community."

Counseling hotline: 6873942 and icanserve@yahoo.com.



"EMBRACE"

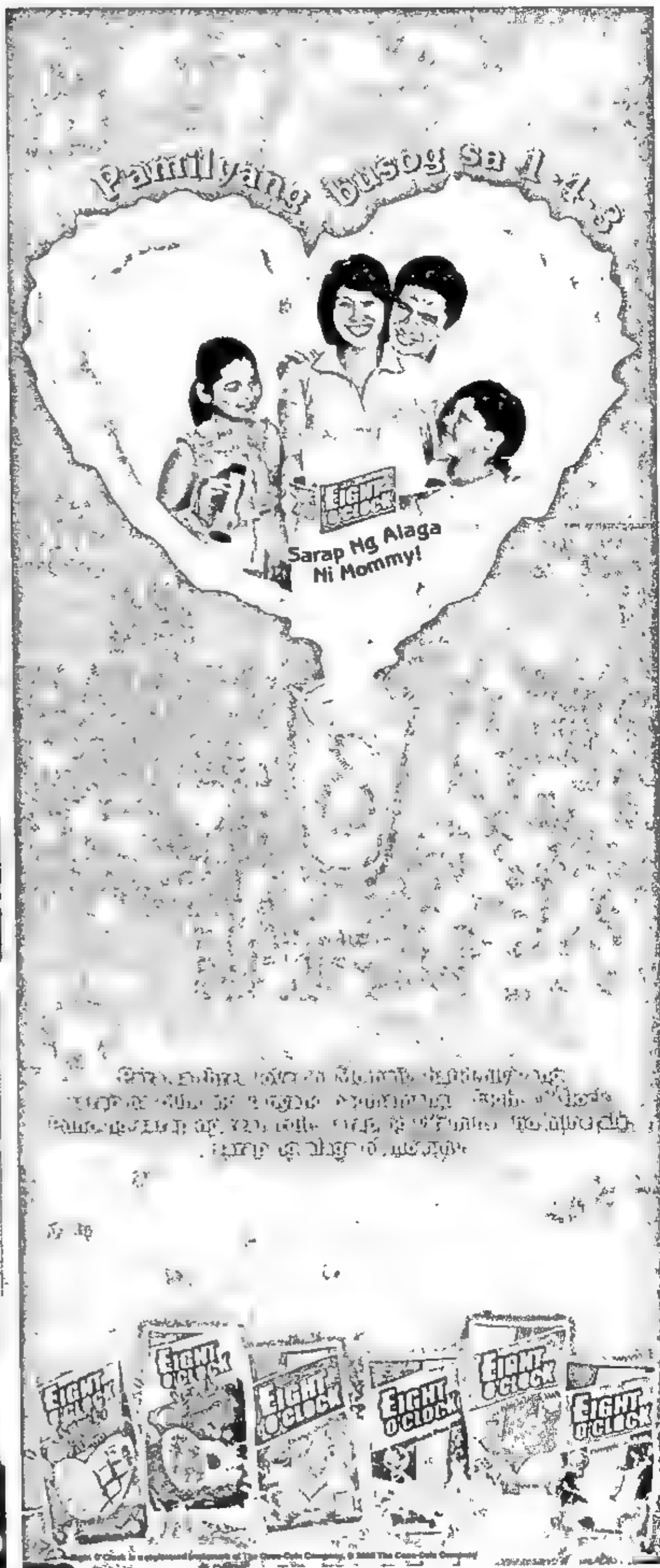


GALLERY opening crowd

GALLERY PHOTOS BY ROGER PIRAGALLO



I CAN Serve's Kara Magsanoc-Alikpala (right) with Maritoni Fernandez



Breathless in Binondo

From page E1

There was a bottle of Quesada paste, which a friend of mine thinks is a product of that Filipino chemist and inventor, Eugenio Quesada, who also wrote a book about his hometown, Paete.

Many of the other bottles had such quaint labels. How wonderful to see that a family can set aside valuable office space to lovingly preserve these images from our past!

Breathtaking buildings

At the far end of Escolta is one of the most beautiful streetscapes in the city with two breathtaking pre-World War II buildings facing each other: the Regina Building and the Perez-Samanillo. The former has a neo-Classical air akin to the government buildings in New Delhi. The latter is a masterpiece of Philippine Art Deco architecture. It was designed by Juan Luna's son, Andres Luna de San Pedro. One can detect in this splendid edifice touches of Angkor and even Meso-American motifs.

Coming out of Escolta, we reached the plaza dominated by Santa Cruz Church. On one side rose the pretty Monte de Piedad building. This had Art Nouveau touches mixed in with sculptures of eagles and human figures.

Crossing the plaza, we entered Ongpin Street. Walking on this road you would really feel you are no longer in the Philippines. The shop signs are in Chinese. Chinese music blares from radios. The fruit stalls sell exotic ware like persimmons and dragonfruits. You can even buy fresh sugarcane juice off a sidewalk pushcart. Pharmacies sell Chinese medicine made from things like roots and dried pods.

As a friend of mine points out, with Chinese medicine you can still see the natural sources of the prescriptions, unlike their Western counterparts. As such you never lose the sense that you are being healed by the wonder of nature itself.

Ongpin wares

Ongpin is where everyone goes to stock up on mahjong sets, incense, *champoy* and other things Chinese.

Popular stops on any shopping expedition include the many groceries where there is an abundance of teas, preserved fruits, dried beef, noodles.

You can also buy little nutcrackers for watermelon seeds! Now no one will ask how they crack the melon seeds in moon cakes!

In one street corner you will come upon a roadside shrine containing a cross with silver ornamentation. Passersby were praying before the cross and burning sticks of incense. This was truly an example of the merging of Christianity with other faiths.

Weaving in and out of traffic were the districts' many *alestas*. What impressed me were the lovely silver decorations reminiscent of the ones of the cross.

Of course, one must not forget to buy *hopia*. The *hopia* shops have now expanded the range of their ware. They sell soya milk, packed lunches, and even *tikoy* in a variety of flavors like strawberry and pandan.

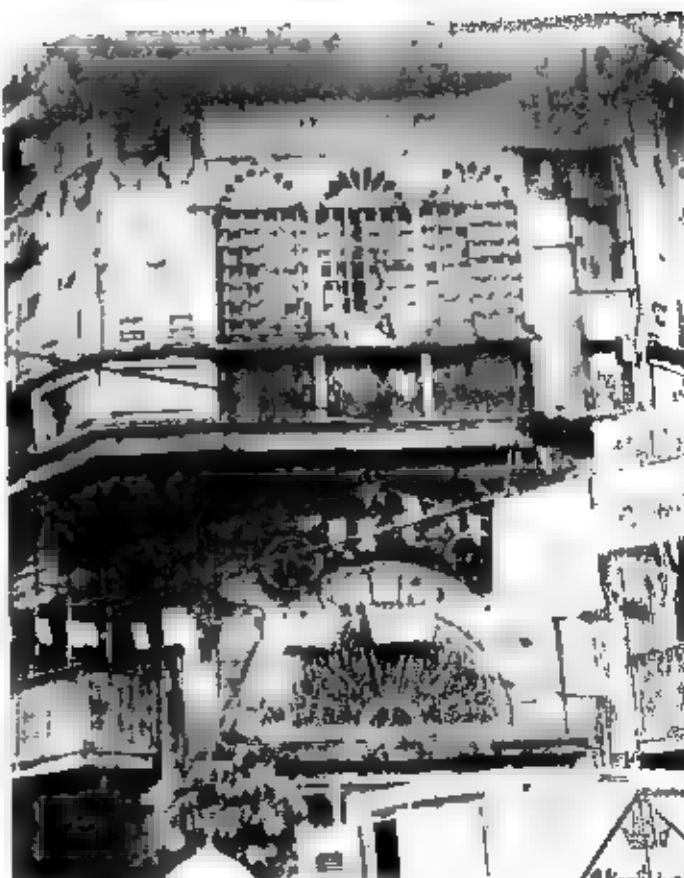
In one store there is a recorded message which greets you when you enter and taunts you if you don't buy anything! (I am joking, ok?)

My favorite shop would have to be the chocolate store. Through the years, La Resurreccion has been selling its chocolate in tinfoil form for making the delicious drinks. There are two kinds: sweetened and unsweetened.

Proprietor Johnny To explains that he is a fourth-generation chocolatier. He proudly explains he gets his cacao all the way from Davao. He even points to a newspaper clipping that extols the virtues of his product.

Apparently a little of the lovely brown substance every day is good for you. Well, I will have to look into that!

He allowed me to explore his shop. There were buckets of the fabled goop. These ended up in little tablets set out on



AN OLD bottle in the Calvo-Tanaka Museum, Escolta

PAINFULLY beautiful 19th-century house in San Nicolas

huge bilao. Heavenly!

Chocolate haven

Nearby is another store, La Simpatica, which is run by Lily Ong. La Simpatica sells beaded slippers still made in the Philippines. They have a good selection.

A friend of mine bought some shiny plain slippers, which were a hit the next evening at a reception in Makati!

At the other end of Ongpin is Binondo Church. This is home to the lovely image of Nuestra Señora de Pronto Socorro, thought to be the oldest painting in the Philippines.

Unfortunately we were not allowed to see the image as the parish priest (who was out in a meeting) had left strict orders that no one could view the painting without his approval.

His staff tried their best to seek permission from senior parishioners, but no one wanted to make a decision in the absence of the priest.

How sad that we had to forego visiting such a lovely devotional object and treasure of our heritage. Perhaps the next time the priest is out he may consider assigning a deputy.

We paused briefly for a dimsum lunch. Then we were off on our final leg, meandering through the streets of San Nicolas. This district probably has the biggest collection of 19th-century houses that still exist in Manila.

The houses were truly beautiful. I saw lovely windows as well as doorways and panels carved with stars, flowers, interlocking circles.

Sadly many homes were being torn down even as we walked by. Fortunately we found a corner which still had the original street sign formed by letter tiles.

After a long hot journey, we finally found what was easily the highlight of the day: a truly incredible house now mostly in ruins. It contained most of a whole block. Rarely have I seen anything as beautiful.

It was three stories of fantastic carving. There were exquisite lunettes, brackets, columns, alcoves, rondelles. It was magnificent and oh so painful to look at, given its awful condition.

I went home that day with mixed feelings. I was happy to see so many wonderful things. But I must say that it was all so painfully beautiful, for the fact that one is so aware everything is under threat.

I suppose one can only find consolation in trying to hold on to a positive attitude. One must never lose sight of what must be saved for future generations in the midst of all that destruction.



"BELZEBOI," by Avid Liongoren

It's all in the (Liongoren) family

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

DURING his youth, visual artist Alfredo Liongoren felt alienated from his father. Education had created a gap between them. And so Fred reached out to him by showing his father his paintings, which were and are in the abstract style. Unfortunately, this only widened the gap between them because his parent could not make heads or tails of his son's works.

Disturbed, Fred asked himself what was Filipino about his works, and he consulted his guru Steve Magannon, a Kalinaga social anthropologist and expert on minorities (now a Unesco consultant in Paris) who gave him some words of wisdom which have since guided Liongoren.

"We are an amalgam, a melting pot," the artist, now 59, recalls that Magannon told him this.

"Don't make Filipino identity an issue. We all contribute to that 'pool.' You just contribute what you want to do. At this point, we cannot define national identity."

Magannon added, "Each generation must define what is national identity. Just keep on doing what you're doing. You make your own marks and contribute, and this will be studied later on. As for your father, he is the sum total, the product of his upbringing."

Liongoren declares, "It was affirming to me."

His latest show is ongoing at Pinto Gallery (Grand Heights Subdivision, Antipolo City) until Oct. 17. And it's a family affair. All of Fred and Norma Liongoren's three children—Erik, 29, Avid, 24, and Hannah, 19—have separate shows in the other rooms of the sprawling gallery, which is located in a scenic, verdant hilltop residential complex overlooking Metro Manila.

Liongoren's colors have changed considerably from the gray, cold, almost wintry landscapes of the mind that won awards from the Art Association of the Philippines in the past. Now the paintings are almost stark, with bold strokes of black and white, red and blue, and yellow-orange. The shapes are unrecognizable. They just convey a certain mood, a certain feeling. The brows simulate waves, for instance, and the yellows may suggest energy.

Liongoren adopts a cerebral approach to his works, and



ABSTRACT artist Alfredo Liongoren

cites Zen as an influence. "The paintings are pure mindfulness, as a critic has noted. 'There is an element of randomness in my strokes but also an element of control,'" Liongoren says. "The less color you use, the more demanding it is..." The series is untitled, "so as not to limit your interpretation."

His children took after him, but not stylistically. Their works are figurative and representational, almost expressionist. The digital prints of Avid and Hannah have a whimsical, childlike quality but with a bite, a certain maturity.

One work in monochromatic dark blue by Avid caught my attention. It shows the artist on a rooftop, surrounded by darkness, and wanting to take flight like an Icarus. (It turned out the print was inspired by a brownout, when the family went to their rooftop to cool off and take in the night air.)

"The Fashionista" by Hannah is a statement, with the girl (fashion plate?) depicted as a marionette.

Erik is the photographer of the family, and he comes up with sharp as well as soft-focus images in varied settings. He has a wide range of subjects—cultural minorities, models, children, actors, musicians and dancers. Erik has a feel for people and places, and it is easy to see why he is in demand as a commercial photographer (although he would rather do art photography).



JOHNNY To, fourth generation of chocolatiers, at La Simpatica in Binondo



MR. ONG, the beaded slippers man from Binondo

Gonzalez at Podium, De Leon and Javier at West, Muñoz at Hiraya, Reyes at Second

GENE Gonzalez unveils his sculptures in "Back to Bliss (Homage to Love and Romance)" on Oct. 13-20 at The Podium. He presents 18 figures involved in various forms of embrace. Forged on highly polished stainless steel, the modernist sculptures are mounted on a special hardwood base. The figures are perfect for Asian-inspired houses or condos. Call 7239253.

WEST Gallery showcases R.M. de Leon's "Peace in the Valley?" until Oct. 19 at Level 4, Megamall A. The exhibit features large-scale acrylic drawings on paper. Call 6341284.

FERDIE Montemayor mounts his solo show "Drawings" until Oct. 13 at the Big and Small Art Co., 4/L, SM Megamall. Montemayor presents his latest works on paper, which are all done in ink. Call 6877425.

WEST Gallery presents Geraldine Javier's "There is No There There" on Oct. 14-26 3/L Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. The exhibit is a series of mixed-media works. It's wax on embroidered canvas that tackles issues and choices confronting 30-something singles. Call 7527028.

THE GOETHE-Institut features Ral Tooten's "Eyes of Wisdom" on Oct. 15-21 at The Podium, Ortigas Cen-

ter. The photographs were the result of a four-year journey around the world.

HIRAYA Gallery features Maya Muñoz's "The Unbearable Being of Nothingness," a visual paean to looking on beaches, dabbling into spirituality, teenage angst and plain street sights. The exhibit runs on Oct. 16-Nov. 11 at 530 UN Avenue Ermita, Manila. Call 5233331.

MAHM Reyes will hold his third solo, "Transfigure," at the Second Gallery, 217 Dona Aurora St., Angono, Rizal on Oct. 15. "Transfigure" refers to the artist's shift from abstraction to figuration, and suggests the resurrection in art of the now vanished scenes from the

artist's childhood. An Angono artist, Reyes is self-taught and regards National Artist Carlos "Botong" Francisco as his major inspiration. The Second Gallery is part of the "Botong" residence. Guests of honor are Rep. Jack Duavit, Gov. Casimiro Ynares, Vice Gov. Jastoni Alarcon, LP Prof. Ligaya Tiamson Rubin, Board Member Noel Reyes, Mayor Garry Calderon, Vice Mayor Aurora Villamayor, Councilor Rainier Rubin, Councilor Bernie Balagtas, Atty. Myrna Directo, Dr. Jdng Reyes, Francisco Origas III, Cid Reyes, Lily Rivera and Gino Oomendo.



"PEACE in the Valley 2," by R.M. de Leon

"BUTANDING"



"UNTITLED #9," by Alfredo Liongoren

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Louie C. Camino

ENTERTAINMENT Metro

Text us your feedback: inquirer.ent.name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The earth moved as Rico J. sang at Araneta

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE FANS who flocked to "The Way We Were" concert of Rico J. Puno and Basil Valdez at the Araneta Coliseum last Friday night would surely talk about the stark contrast for days to come.

Basil was as formal as Rico J was naughty. Basil quietly addressed the crowd, while Rico J worked them to fits of laughter. It was painful to watch Basil's attempts to dance, after seeing Rico J, the vintage "Total Performer," comfortably shaking his booty.

They were such opposites on stage that they did not really need to wear different colored suits. Rico could have been in white and Basil in black to drive home the obvious point.

But the way they sang was another subject, for they made beautiful music together. Any misgivings about putting these two performers with conflicting styles together on one stage, for the first time in their 27 years in show business, faded away faster than you could say "baby, baby."

Their appetizer was a medley of standards from "The Great American Songbook"—"The Way You Look Tonight," "All the Way," "Come Fly With Me," with Rico easily hitting the high notes.

Good behavior

Basil then took the stage alone and served the first course—Ryan Cayabyab's "Nais Ko," "You," which was written by his late friend from Ateneo grade school and fellow Circus Band member Gerry Paraiso, and "Lift Up Your Hands" by Cecile Azarcon.

Rico came back just when the mood was turning somber, and traded covers with Basil. He flawlessly executed "Wildflower" after Basil sang "Of All the Things." When it was Rico J's turn again, it was easy to say who had a better rapport with the audience.

But Rico J's jokes were decidedly tame, probably because he feared offending Basil's finer sensibilities. As he said at one point, he had to behave himself and tone down the green jokes lest the church-going Basil walk out of the concert.

He was true to form when he had the stage to himself, poking fun at his friends in the audience, including fellow singers Nonoy Zúñiga, Marco Sison, actor Rudy Fernandez, host Willie Revillame and Sen. Jinggoy Estrada.

Rico J also had no qualms about reading the lyrics of some songs off the monitors, but he did not need any help when it came to his own songs, like the themes of his movies with Nora Aunor, Niño Muhlach and Alma Moreno, and his well-appreciated cover of "McArthur's Park."

Yes, he could still sing them as well as he did during his heyday in the 1970s, and he cajoled the audience to clap "out of respect." But they really did not need any encouragement.

When both Basil and Rico J took the stage again, they reminisced about their similar starts in the business as folk singers. Basil was earning P10 an hour, with free meals, while Rico J got P50 for a gig at the Spindle bar.

Guitar men

They let the audience peek into that former life when they strummed guitars, although Rico had to borrow Basil's when his turn came because his son's guitar wouldn't work, and he sang songs from his Spindle days.

Basil sang Cat Stevens' "Sad Lisa," while Rico J did Joe Cocker's "You are So Beautiful." Together, they sang "Love Song" which was also sung by Elton John, and Kansas' "Dust in the Wind," completing the trip down that particular part of memory lane.

The audience gamely welcomed their covers of newer songs and a medley of Barry Manilow karaoke classics, but they reserved their loudest cheers for the pair's original songs. They paid to hear them sing their own songs.

Basil sang songs penned by George Canseco—"Hanggang Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan," "Kastilyong Buhangin," "Ngayon and Kailanman" and "Ngayon." Basil said he would not have been able to sing these songs if not for Viva's Vic del Rosario, who asked him to sing these as themes of Viva movies. Otherwise, he said, he would have remained singing at the Lost Horizon

of the Philippine Plaza.

Looking up the ceiling

Rico sang his own hits, "My Love" and "Buhat." He was on his way to putting the final flourish to his "May Bukas Pa" when the Araneta Coliseum suddenly started rocking, and it was not because of the crowd's excitement. A few seconds later, the people realized it was an earthquake, and they nervously looked up at the domed ceiling and the big lights that might come crashing down on them.

People were still looking at the ceiling, and some even started to leave the coliseum, as Rico J finished the song with gusto. "Why was everybody looking up?" he quipped. Told there was an earthquake, he coolly dismissed the fear when he said it was nature's way of saying "The Way We Were"

was a successful show.

The audience apparently agreed for they stayed on and lustily sang along with Rico J as he sang "The Way We Were" and "Magka-suyo."

Basil came back on stage to sing Rico J's "Macho Guwapito" and Rico J encouraged him to dance to it with him, however badly. Rico J then tried to sing Basil's "Tuwing Umuulan at Kapiling Ka," even aping Basil's

way of toying with the microphone cable while singing.

Then they sang their biggest hits—Rico's "Kapalaran" and Basil's "Hindi Kita Malilumutan," after which they took their bows and hugged each other while the audience gave them a standing ovation.

After the 2-and-a-half-hour show, a musical friendship started, one that hopefully would not take another 27 years to celebrate.

A MUSICAL FRIENDSHIP was reinforced Friday night, between Rico J (left) and Basil, and between them and their followers.



Sun FlexiLink

The Variable Life Insurance from

Sun  Life Financial

brings you

bond

- CLASSIFIED -



PICC Plenary Hall
8PM | 20 October 2004

For ticket reservations, call
TicketWorld at 891-9999

See'emall!

AYALA CINEMAS **IFIX**

Movies/schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729-7777

| ATC | G1 | G4 | GB3 | ACC |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 SHARK TALE | 1 THE PUNISHER | 1 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE | 1 WIMBLEDON | 1 SHARK TALE |
| 2 WIMBLEDON | 2 SHARK TALE | 2 WIMBLEDON | 2 SHARK TALE | 2 OPEN WATER |
| 3 THE PUNISHER | 3 OPEN WATER | 3 THE PUNISHER | 3 THE PUNISHER | 3 SAVED |
| 4 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE | 4 FENG SHUI | 4 THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | 4 OPEN WATER | 4 RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE |
| 5 OPEN WATER | | 5 SHARK TALE | 5 SHARK TALE | 5 13 GOING ON 30 |

At the Activity Center

| GLORIETTA | ALABANG TOWN CENTER | AYALA CENTER CEBU |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| GERMAN FESTIVAL: GERMAN EXPO October 8 to 10, 2004 | ANSON'S EXHIBIT October 4 to 17, 2004 | SIGN LANGUAGE CULMINATING ACTIVITIES October 10, 2004 |

ENTERTAINMENT LINE!

| GREENBELT 2 | GREENBELT 3 |
|---|--|
| GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES FEATURING THOR October 9, 7:00pm to 10:00pm | SPANISH FESTIVAL: LETRAS Y FIGURAS PAINTING EXHIBIT October 8 to 15, Greenbelt 3 Lobby |

REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents PINOCCHIO at REP's GLOBE THEATER - August 7 to December 12, 2004
TRADE HALL FOR EXHIBITS, EVENTS AND MORE!
For inquiries and bookings, please call 750-4962 to 84

Shark Tale Family Day

October 9 & 10
1:00 - 4:00pm
Glorietta 4
Greenbelt 3
Alabang Town Center

Every purchase of a Shark Tale movie ticket you get
A FREE GLITTER TATTOO or A FREE BEAD SHOP PRODUCT

Just present your Shark Tale movie ticket or a P200 new load/re-load timezone powercard at the Family Day booth.

AYALA CINEMAS Lovemall!

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2357, Series of 2004

Lovemall!

You're just a click away from what's hot and fresh.

Visit us at www.ayalamalls.com.ph

SCREENING SCHEDULE (OCT 9 - 11)

OCT 9 (SAT)
2:00 pm Historias Minimas
4:30 pm El Caballero Don Quijote
7:00 pm En la ciudad
9:30 pm The City of No Limits

OCT 10 (SUN)
2:00 pm Dias de Fútbol
4:30 pm The City of No Limits
7:00 pm El Otro Lado de la Cama
9:30 pm La Caja 507

OCT 11 (MON)
2:00 pm Smoking Room
4:30 pm El Juego de la Silla
7:00 pm The City of No Limits
9:30 pm La Primera Noche

For inquiries, please call 520-1482 to 85 or visit www.ayalamalls.com.ph

CUSTOMER SERVICE TEXT HOTLINE: 0917-6095900 • CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE: Glorietta - 752-7272; from 10am to 8pm • Greenbelt - 757-4853; from 11am to 12am • Alabang Town Center - 842-2762; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231-5342 loc 324 • AYALA CINEMA LINES: For screening times call 729-7777.
Reserve your seats by texting SUNSEATS GB3 or SHRESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart).
Or log on to www.seatreservations.com for web reservations.

AYALA CENTER **ALABANG TOWN CENTER** **AYALA CENTER CEBU** **Lovemall!**

SM movietime

Shark Tale

A new school's gonna rock!

I what to watch I

—THE— PODIUM CINEMA

For Seat Reservation, call 633 8976
LATE NIGHT SCREENING
DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

1 SHARK'S TALE

2 WIMBLEDON

| SM Southmall Cinema 2 | SM City North EDSA Cinema 1 SM City Fairview Cinema 11 | SM City Manila Cinema 12 SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5 |
|-----------------------|---|--|
|-----------------------|---|--|

| SM City Fairview Cinema 3 | SM Southmall Cinema 10 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 6 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|

| SM City Manila Cinema 2 | SM City Manila Cinema 7 | SM Megamall Cinema 5 | SM Southmall Cinema 3 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| SM Supercenter Sucat Cinema 3 | SM City North EDSA Cinema 6 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 10 | SM City Fairview Cinema 9 |

| SM City Fairview Cinema 5 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 8 | SM City North EDSA Cinema 4 | SM City Manila Cinema 1 |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| SM Megamall Cinema 10 | SM City Southmall Cinema 8 | | |

| SM Southmall Cinema 5 | SM Megamall Cinema 11 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------------|-----------------------|

| SM City Supercenter Sucat Cinema 1 | SM City Fairview Cinema 4 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 3 | SM City Manila Cinema 4 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| SM City North EDSA Cinema 1 | SM City Bicutan Cinema 4 | SM City Southmall Cinema 8 | SM City North EDSA Cinema 8 |
| | | | SM Megamall Cinema 4 |

| SM Megamall Cinema 3 | SM City North EDSA Cinema 4 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 5 | SM City Manila Cinema 2 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| SM City Fairview Cinema 8 | SM Socat Cinema 2 | SM City Southmall Cinema 4 | SM City Bicutan Cinema 3 |

| SM City Fairview Cinema 1 | SM City Manila Cinema 3 | SM Megamall Cinema 12 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|

| SM Southmall Cinema 1 | SM City Fairview Cinema 10 | SM City Manila Cinema 5 | SM City Sta. Mesa Cinema 8 |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | SM City North EDSA Cinema 7 | SM Megamall Cinema 2 |

Movies are subject to change without prior notice • For complete movie schedule, visit www.smcinema.com

Eiga Sai 2004: Japanese Contemporary Films

Now Showing
SM Megamall Cinema 6

Don't Look Back 2:00pm
Hush 5:00pm
Juvenile 8:00pm

FREE ADMISSION

For inquiries, please call 811-8155 or email at email@jfmno.org.ph

October at Red Door

RED DOOR, the newest restaurant and bar along Pasig Boulevard (formerly Shaw Boulevard Extension), ushers October with a feast of stars.

Start the week with Franco on Mondays, watch a mini-concert series with Cruxada on Tuesdays, Essence on Wednesdays, and the R&B sensation Thor and Rewind on Thursdays.

Alamid, Megan Aguilar with Flower Child go acoustic on Oct. 15. Master rapper Francis Magalona performs on Oct. 22. Rivermaya takes its turn on Oct. 29.

Red Door gives the partyholics reason to feel delighted on all Saturdays of October. It's a hot sizzling night with a stimulating fashion show on Oct. 16.

Pop idol and Aliw Awards most promising male artist Lance Raymundo performs with the R&B band Xsentrik on Oct. 23.

Performing on Oct. 30 are Alana and Pido with Take One.

Red Door welcomes Halloween with a magic show and henna tattooing.

Whether you like acoustic, R&B, alternative, dance or reggae, there's something for everyone at Red Door.

Red Door is at 173 Pasig Blvd., Pasig City. It is open Mondays to Saturdays, from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. With an indoor-outdoor seating capacity of 400, it's ideal for parties, conferences, birthdays and other social gatherings.

DID YOU KNOW...

Spotted at Rockwell at the Power Plant Mall in Makati City one recent Saturday afternoon were actor Onemig Bondoc and Viva Hot Babe Sheree. The pair watched the movie "Resident Evil" at the Rockwell cineplex. Onemig was in an all-black outfit, while Sheree was in a spaghetti-strap blouse, denim pants and white baseball cap. The two were eating hotdogs. Also seen malling at Rockwell that same afternoon were "Feng Shui" star Lotlot de Leon and her four children. Angelica Pangani-ban, of TV's "Mangarap Ka" and Laurice Guillen's new movie "Santa Santa," was also there, shopping with her mom.



'THANKFUL' IN BAGUIO

Ayen Munji-Laurel goes to SM Baguio to promote her second studio album, "Thankful," produced by ML Entertainment and distributed by BMG Records, on Saturday, Oct. 16. "Thankful" has 12 original, OPM songs. The carrier single, "Kailan Nga Ba?," is now being played on radio; its music video is No. 8 in the MYX Daily Countdown. Ayen's album launches are sponsored by the PCSO, Globe Platinum, Ratsky, The Podium, Alabang Town Center, Shangri-la Plaza, China Star, Banana Leaf, Red Crab and SM Supermalls. On Nov. 19, Ayen will have a concert at the GSIS Theater.

Battle of bands

TO CELEBRATE Oktoberfest, catch free, live performances by the country's best rock bands on all Saturdays of October at the 2nd level activity hub of Starmall Las Piñas.

Metropolis Star Alabang launches the search for the next superstar band in Star Jam Battle of the Bands 2004. The one-day event is open to all amateur bands with 4-8 members who are at least 18 years old. The music may be rock, pop, R&B or alternative.

Application forms are available at the Metropolis Star Marketing Department. Call 850-3845 for more details.

Starmall Edsa has its own search, Star Paziklaban Battle of the Bands 2004, open to amateur or professional bands who have no recording contracts. Applicants must submit a demo tape of their songs. Application forms are available at the Starmall Edsa Marketing Dept. The grand finals are on Oct. 30.

For more details, call 724-4992.

Kakai, mistress of reinvention

From page 4

teach each other on and off stage.

Busy band

Their gig calendar is invariably crammed as the band is booked six days a week: Soundstage in Cainta every Tuesday, Klowitz Araneta every Wednesday, Ratsky's Malate every Thursday, Ratsky's Morato every Friday, Music Factory in the City of San Fernando every Saturday, and Klowitz Quezon Avenue every Sunday.

On Sept. 24, they had a special show at the Pickup Bar and Restaurant in Angeles City.

On top of all this, Kakai is in two GMA-7 shows, "Marinara" and "Idol Ko Si Kap." Kakai and the band are also starting work on their second album from Viva

Records, their follow-up to the hit "Sasakyan Kita."

Still, Kakai and the gang find the time to update and reinvent their looks every so often. Kakai goes to Dr. Tito Calayan for her skin care. She also visits Salon de Manila, with the rest of the band, for her ever-changing hairstyles.

"Recently, we all just decided to get hair extensions," Kakai says. "For a change."

For Kakai and the Boxers, reinvention is a never-ending process. "That's our edge as performers, as singers and as comics," Kakai asserts. "Constant reinvention. You should always change your look, your repertoire, your routine, so that the audience will not get bored and lose interest in you."

That's the gospel, according to the Mistress of Reinvention.

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALMALL CINEPLEX

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| 3 | SHARK TALE | 12:10 pm 2:20 pm 4:30 pm 6:40 pm 8:55 pm |
| 4 | FENG SHUI | 11:35 am 1:55 pm 4:15 pm 6:35 pm 8:55 pm |
| 5 | RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE | 11:35 pm 2:10 pm 4:25 pm 6:45 pm 8:55 pm |
| 6 | OPEN WATER | 11:05 am 1:05 pm 3:05 pm 5:05 pm 7:05 pm 9:05 pm |
| 7 | THE PUNISHER | 1:00 pm 3:40 pm 6:20 pm 9:00 pm |

ARANETA COLISEUM

Oct 13 SAN MIGUEL vs GINEBRA 7:20 pm
Oct 16 JASMINE TRIAS CONCERT
Oct 17 ALASKA vs FEDEX 6:30 pm
Oct 20 SAN MIGUEL vs SHELL 7:20 pm
Oct 24 GINEBRA vs SHELL 6:30 pm
Oct 27 FEDEX vs COKE 7:20 pm
Dec 11 JULIO IGLESIAS CONCERT
Dec 25 DISNEY ON ICE: Princess Classics

For tickets, call TicketNet at 911-5555

THEATER
MOVIE GUIDE
MANILA

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| EASTERN | CLOSED |
| MAXIM | CLOSED |
| MIRAMAR | SEX BOARD / TAMPONADA |
| ODEON | X-FILES 2 |
| ODEON-2 | BUDDY BY NASH / KASIDIAN |
| ROBIN | BOLD STAR |
| TANDEM-1 | SECRET |
| TANDEM-2 | KAGAWAN / MANDALAY |
| TIMES | DR. SEVERIN / PUNISHER |

QUEZON CITY

| | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| ACT-1 | SECRET SHARD |
| ACT-2 | KAYAKO PERO MASADIT |
| ACT-3 | ORIGINAL SIN |
| ACT-4 | WANGANG KALAN / KAPUTIR |
| CORNET A | WOLLA / MAFRANCO |
| CORNET B | A MAN APART |
| QUEZON-1 | BERTUO NG PUTIK |
| REMAR | X-FILES 2 |
| REMAR-2 | BOLD STAR |

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

| | |
|---|--------|
| A | ALPHA |
| B | CLOSED |
| C | CLOSED |

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL 635-2675 / 633-7851 TO 70
CINEMA 1, 2, 3, 4 SHARK TALE / WIMBLEDON / OPEN WATER / PUNISHER
PREMIERE THEATRE SHARK TALE

CAINTA RIZAL

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| STA. LUCIA EAST | (681-5411 TO 19) |
| CINEMA-1 | SECRET SHARD |
| CINEMA-2 | CRASHIA, JANA |
| CINEMA-3 | SECRETARY |
| CINEMA-4 (SHOWING) | BOURNE SUPREMACY |
| CINEMA-5 (DTS) | RAISING HELEN |
| CINEMA-6 | VIP ROOM (RE-ENTRY) |
| CINEMA-7 | EXORCIST THE BEGINNING |
| CINEMA-8 | ANACONDA |
| CINEMA-9 (DTS) | RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE |
| CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | SHARK TALE |
| CINEMA-11 (DTS) | PUNISHER |
| CINEMA-12 | OPEN WATER |
| CINEMA-14 | WIMBLEDON |
| CINEMA-15 | DRYING CURE |

LORES

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| CINEMA-2 | SECRET SHARD |
| CINEMA-3 | KAYAKO PERO MASADIT |

ME CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| (LAS PIÑAS) | MALAGA |
| CINEMA-1 | FENG SHUI |
| CINEMA-2 | DOGGED |
| CINEMA-4 | REPTILE |

UNIWE COASTAL MALL

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| (PARANAGUE) | SECRET SHARD |
| CINEMA-1 | KAYAKO PERO MASADIT |
| CINEMA-2 | SECRET SHARD |
| CINEMA-4 | SECRET SHARD |

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
CINEMA ACCESS FOR ALL BRANCHES
Visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com 635-5555

TOP MOVIE THEATER
22nd Annual National Consumer's Quality Award 2004
Family Consumers Choice Award 2003

NOW SHOWING

GALLERIA 632-9115 to 16

CINEMA 1

| | | |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | SHARK TALE | 11:10, 1:30, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00 |
| 3 | OPEN WATER | 11:05, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05 |
| 4 | SHARK TALE | 11:40, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30 |
| 5 | WHITE CHICKS | Sneak Preview |
| 6 | WIMBLEDON | 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 |
| 7 | THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 |
| 8 | FENG SHUI | 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 |
| 9 | RESIDENT EVIL 2 | 10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 |
| 10 | RAISING HELEN | 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 |

Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/55 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

ERMITA 836-7809 to 12

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
| 1 | SHARK TALE | 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 |
| 2 | OPEN WATER | 10:30, 12:30, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30 |
| 3 | WIMBLEDON | 11:10, 1:30, 3:50, 6:10, 8:20, 10:00 |
| 4 | WHITE CHICKS | Sneak Preview |
| 5 | THE PUNISHER | 11:05, 1:40, 4:15, 6:50, 9:40 |
| 6 | FENG SHUI | 10:30, 12:30, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50 |
| 7 | RESIDENT EVIL 2 | 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 |

METRO EAST 682-8193/99 / 682-8280

| | | |
|---|-----------------|---|
| 1 | OPEN WATER | 10:30, 12:30, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30 |
| 2 | WHITE CHICKS | Sneak Preview |
| 3 | FENG SHUI | 11:20, 1:40, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50 |
| 4 | RAISING HELEN | 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 |
| 5 | SHARK TALE | 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:30 |
| 6 | WIMBLEDON | 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50, 10:30 |
| 7 | THE PUNISHER | 11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30 |
| 8 | RESIDENT EVIL 2 | 10:25, 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30 |

NOVALICHES 935-3229 / 31

| | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| 1 | WHITE CHICKS | Sneak Preview |
| 2 | OPEN WATER | 10:30, 12:30, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30 |
| 3 | FENG SHUI | 10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:30 |
| 4 | SHARK TALE | 11:45, 1:25, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30 |
| 5 | THE PUNISHER | 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 |
| 6 | RESIDENT EVIL 2 | 11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:25 |
| 7 | RAISING HELEN | 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30 |
| 8 | THE BOURNE SUPREMACY | 11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:30 |

Citistown MALABON 286-0985/2575

| | |
|---|------------|
| 1 | GODSEND |
| 2 | FENG SHUI |
| 3 | SHARK TALE |
| 4 | JANDARA |

CAINTA 240-4861

| | |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | OPEN WATER |
| 2 | THE PUNISHER |
| 3 | SHARK TALE |
| 4 | FENG SHUI |

White Chicks

From the director of "Scary Movie"

REGULAR SHOWING: Oct. 20

SNEAK PREVIEW
at Robinsons Movieworld
GALLERIA • ERMITA
METRO EAST • NOVALICHES
October 11 & 12
For SCREENING SCHEDULES, pls. call our CINEMA ACCESS: 635-5555 or visit us: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
MTRCB Rating: PG13

The Perfect Gift
All Year Round
A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.
Get Special discounts for volume purchases!
Robinsons Movieworld Prepaid Pass
For inquiries please call: Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 loc. 14/15
MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ROCKWELL CENTER - MAKATI CITY TEL. NO. 891-140-41

| | | |
|--------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| OPEN WATER | PG13 | 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 |
| SHARK TALE | GP | 12:20, 2:20, 4:20, 6:20, 8:20, 10:20 |
| WHITE CHICKS | PG13 | 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 |
| WIMBLEDON | PG13 | 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50 |
| PUNISHER 2 | R13 | 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 |
| SHARK TALE | GP | 1:40, 3:40 |

MATINEE SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM • P40 • MON. TO FRI.

SHANG CINEPLEX

| | | |
|---|------------|--|
| 1 | SHARK TALE | FS 12 PM, 7 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM LMF, 10:00 PM (R) |
| 2 | PUNISHER | (R-13) |
| 3 | OPEN WATER | PG-13 |
| 4 | WIMBLEDON | FS 11:35 AM, 1:55 PM, 4:15 PM, 6:35 PM, 8:55 PM LMF, 8:00 PM (PG-13) |

PREMIERE THEATRE SHARK TALE FS 11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM, 5 PM, 7 PM LMF, 9 PM (R)

For more information please call 632-2227 / 632-7961 loc. 171

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-8) Quezon City

ClickTheCity.com

CTC MOV EASTWOOD send to 2131 for Globe and 2125 for Smart

For inquiries, call 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| 1 | SHARK TALE | 11:40, 2:05, 4:30, 6:55, 9:20 |
| 2 | SHARK TALE | 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 10:20 |
| 3 | OPEN WATER | 11:00, 1:05, 3:15, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25, 11:10 |
| 4 | THE PUNISHER | 11:55, 2:45, 5:35, 8:25, 11:10 |

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!

CINEMA 1 THE PUNISHER 11:35, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15 R13

CINEMA 2 SHARK TALE 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 10:00 GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 722-4496

MUSIC MUSEUM October 15 & 16 October 22 & 23 ALL ABOUT MEN: PENNY TALKS 8:30 PM *The Rebel* WENDY PAUL The Musical 8:00 PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6728 OR 721-0635

ENTERTAINMENT Metro

Text us your feedbacks: inquirer.ent.name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

'THE TWILIGHT SAMURAI' Perfect blend of comic and tragic

By Constantino C. Tejero

"THEY'RE no longer showing R-rated movies," a moviegoer murmured to his two companions at the Japanese film festival. "Puro facts of life na lang, ano?"

The guy noted the dearth of sexually explicit movies at SM Megamall nowadays, even in hitherto liberal film fests.

In an afterthought, he added: "But the one we just saw is very good, though."

He was referring to Yoji Yamada's "The Twilight Samurai," which just received loud applause after its screening at Eiga Sai, the festival of Japanese contemporary films presented through September and October by the Japan Foundation-Manila in cooperation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the University of the Philippines Film Institute, The Podium and SM Cinema.

That ordinary moviegoer's comment underscores the appeal and power of this film, which has drawn acclaim from both the public and critics.

Yamada, known to us for his farces and melodramas such as "The Yellow Handkerchief" and the "Tora-san" series, has come up with a perfect blending of the comic and the tragic in this film.

Nominated for best foreign language

film at the American Academy Awards this year, it is only the 11th Japanese film so nominated—and the first in over two decades, after "Kagemusha" and "Muddy River" in the early 1980s.

This one belongs to the *chambara* film, that genre of Japanese historical or period movies dealing with the samurai (the soldier class of the lower nobility in feudal Japan), with such classic as "Hagakure" and such popularizer in the West as Akira Kurosawa.

REVIEW

The genre became so popular that it directly influenced the Western, while many of the Japanese films cited at the Oscars deal with the samurai or have samurai for protagonists: "Kagemusha," "Rashomon," "Gate of Hell," "The Legend of Musashi," "Kwaidan."

A different way

But even then, Yamada's is not your typical samurai movie, as it has a different way of telling the story. He has simply taken a divergent tack in tracing the way of the samurai, different from such Kurosawa masterworks as "Yojimbo," "Sanjuro," "Seven Samurai," "Throne of Blood," or even Nagisa Oshima's recent "Gohatto."

Here, Yamada explores the life of a samurai in its fullness, in all its humanity,

not just within the hierarchy but also, in large part, his domestic life.

Set in the Meiji period, this is the story of Seibei Iguchi, a low-level samurai. It was at that time when radical changes were happening in government and society. In a few years, the samurai and its chivalric code of conduct would be obsolete.

At film's start, Iguchi's wife has just died of consumption. He has to sell his sword to pay for the funeral expenses and to put food on the table. Thus he has been reduced to using a wooden stick in fighting.

The rest of the film tells how the widower keeps balancing his official and domestic duties in serving his lord and taking care of his two little daughters and senile mother.

Behind his back his colleagues call him "Twilight Samurai," as he goes home immediately after work at twilight instead of joining them in the bars for a night of carousing. This then is the story of the samurai as family man.

(The nickname, and the film's title, could as well refer to the passing of the whole samurai culture.)

A common soldier who tries to raise a family, earning his keep as a scribe and insect-trap maker, Iguchi takes in stoic silence what life throws at him.

Despite poverty and low rank, however, he tries all means to keep his family intact, and proves himself as father, son, servant, warrior and lover.

Masterfully played by Hiroyuki Sanada ("a dramatic actor of a presence and stature rivaling Toshiro Mifune," says a critic), he could very well stand for the average man.

He is unambitious, he doesn't crave for wealth or status, yet he holds a strong idea of what happiness is.

(One reviewer points out the film's point as that "the life of an ambitious, family-oriented man may be happier and more appreciated than that of an engaged warrior.")

Unusual naturalism

Realistic in details, the film is so unlike other samurai movies in its depiction of the common and the ignoble in the life of the samurai. This is emphasized by the low lighting, muted color and tone of the visual composition.

An instance of this unusual naturalism is the lurid image of the flies swarming over the corpse of a fallen warrior. Compare that to the magnificent image of the battlefield in Kurosawa's "Ran," which is littered with corpses but made beautiful by the redness of torn banners and spilled blood.

Details of domesticity and the quotidian keep intruding into the scenes. While Iguchi is being dressed up for battle, his kimono arranged and hair done by his childhood love, Tomoe (played with so much beauty and sadness by Rie Miyazawa), a peddler of wicker hampers and baskets enters the frame loudly hawking his ware on the street.

While samurai movies have always been associated with action (power, movement, energy) in the same way Chinese kung-fu movies have been, this film is relatively quiet and "actionless" except for two sword fights.

There is, toward the end, the obligatory scene showcasing martial-art prowess (conducted after the two duelists' long conversation about the hardness of life and the influence of foreign culture). Yet the climactic scene is still linked to the samurai's domestic concerns more than to obedience to his lord or loyalty to his clan.

This is one of the most affecting films to have graced the local screen in a long while. Don't miss its final screening at the Eiga Sai on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m., in Cinema 6 at SM Megamall.

We've seen DVD copies rampant on the market but we chose to watch this exceptional film on the wide screen, where it is more aesthetically satisfying.



THE SAMURAI family man: Iguchi (Hiroyuki Sanada) lives only from the joy of taking care of his daughters.

Kakai, mistress of reinvention

By Bayani San Diego
Contributor

KAKAI, the lead singer of the comedy band K and the Boxers, knows only too well the importance of new ideas and concepts in terms of their repertoire and comic routines as well as in their fashion.

"We really make an effort to look good on stage," says Kakai. "Not just presentable, but fabulous. Even though our jokes are rowdy and wacky, we still look stylish. That way, we're able to keep the audience's respect."

Unlike other bands whose members go on stage looking as if they were just going mall, Kakai and the rest of the band (Daniel Lardizabal, Cris Samonte and Shanna Hife) try to look their best every time they perform.

"Especially since I'm also on TV," Kakai explains. "On TV, I am always cast as the jokers, mukhang kargador, babang bakla." In short, totally devoid of glamour. "That's why I try to look good on stage, so people would say 'She's pretty naman pala in person.'"

Always different

She makes it a point to make her TV roles and onstage persona as distinct and diverse as possible. "Sometimes we talk about what we're going to wear for gigs," she says. "We all agree to come in something sporty one night, something formal and dressy on another night. Or I'll be glamorous while Cris will be in rubber shoes but his outfit will be just as colorful."

Diversity is the key, according to Kakai. "We try to look always different on stage," she says.

Once, the members of K and the Boxers went on stage dressed as their favorite action heroes. "Daniel was Wolverine from 'X-Men,' Cris was Neo from 'The Matrix,' and I was Lara Croft from 'Tomb Raider.'"

Lara Croft is Shanna's favorite look for Kakai. "She looks like Angelina Jolie when she has her hair in a ponytail," says Shanna.

Although Kakai is not a big fan of mall (she hates walking around), she has come to terms with the fact that she needs to always buy new clothes for her shows.

"I buy my clothes everywhere," she says. "Sometimes I find it too expensive to shop in malls. And I have a hard time looking for my size in local stores."

She once spent the whole day going all over Glorieta. "But I was able



FASHION FORWARD.

Although she admits she's hardly faultless fashion-wise, Kakai can be sporty, formal or dressy, depending on the show and the occasion.

to buy only two outfits!"

No time for Tutuban

How Kakai wishes she can join Cris and Shanna in Tutuban in Divisoria, where Cris has a *suki*, a merchant he regularly patronizes, where he buys Thailand-made clothes and Shanna her jazzed-up jeans. "But I don't have the time (to go to Tutuban)," sighs Kakai.

Shanna shares that Kakai often buys a little something for her whenever the latter goes on her rare mall expeditions. "Because it's so easy to shop for Shanna," explains Kakai. "Even in the P99 Store, you can find something that will fit Shanna."

Kakai and the other members of the band often act as each other's stylists and fashion advisers. "We're very open to each other," she says. "We tell each

other if we think an outfit does not suit us. Like I often tell Cris to avoid the hip hop look because it's no longer in fashion. And I tell Daniel not to wear all-white outfits, including white pointed shoes! We don't want him to look like Tony Ferrer (the Pinoy version of James Bond, Agent Tony Falcon, in movies in the '60s and '70s)!"

Kakai is the first to admit that she is hardly faultless fashion-wise. "I also have my off-days," she admits. "Sometimes I feel tired and I am not in the mood to dress up. So I tell the others to cover for me. The same goes with our spiels and songs. If one of us is having a burn night, the others try to make up for him or her."

That, she says, is the secret of the band's success: They support and pro-

KAKAI 3

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| SHANG CINEPLEX Telephone: 833.2227 / 833.7851 loc. 171 PREMIERE THEATRE SHARK TALE 1 (PG) SHARK TALE 2 (PG) PUNISHER 3 (PG) OPEN WATER 4 (PG) WIMBLEDON | FESTIVAL CINEMA (Muntinlupa) tel 858.3571 or 72 1 (PG) SHARK TALE 2 (PG) OPEN WATER 3 (PG) THE BOURNE SUPREMACY 4 (PG) SHARK TALE 5 (PG) PUNISHER 6 (PG) PUNISHER 7 (PG) RESIDENT EVIL 8 (PG) FENG SHUI 9 (PG) RAISING HELEN 10 (PG) RESIDENT EVIL | EASTWOOD CINEMAS (Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Green City tel 847.5963 or 72 1 (PG) PUNISHER 2 (PG) SHARK TALE 3 (PG) OPEN WATER 4 (PG) PUNISHER THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT Argenta Center Alimall CINEPLEX Tel. 911-3101 loc. 8242 / 8261 / 8397 3 (Dolby) TALE 4 (SDOS) FENG SHUI 5 (RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE 6 (Dolby) OPEN WATER 7 (Dolby) THE THUNDER |
| SUPER CINERAMA CINECITY COMPLEX TEL 733-4238 1 (PG) RESIDENT EVIL 2 (PG) PUNISHER 3 (PG) SHARK TALE 4 (PG) WIMBLEDON 5 (PG) CRISANTA... IBA KA | Gotesco Grand Central (Calabarzon) tel 364.3781 1 (PG) RESERVE 2 (PG) RESERVE 3 (PG) RESERVE 4 (PG) RESERVE 5 (PG) RESERVE 6 (PG) RESERVE 7 (PG) RESERVE 8 (PG) RESERVE 9 (PG) RESERVE | Maragana CINEMA (Pasig) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274 1 (PG) SHARK TALE 2 (PG) PUNISHER 3 (PG) RESIDENT EVIL METROPOLIS (Alabang) tel 858.4285 1 (PG) RESIDENT EVIL 2 (PG) CRISANTA... IBA KA 3 (PG) WIMBLEDON 4 (PG) FENG SHUI 5 (PG) PUNISHER 6 (PG) SHARK TALE |
| Berna Cinema (Bulacan) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029 1 (PG) PUNISHER 2 (PG) MGA BAGA SA VIP ROOM | Lianas Cinema (Alabang) tel 850.1276 1 (PG) MGA BAGA SA VIP ROOM 2 (PG) CRISANTA... IBA KA 3 (PG) THE EXORCIST: THE BEGINNING 4 (PG) MIND HUNTERS | st rmall (Luzon) tel 847.237.7087 1 (PG) DOOMS DAY |

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE